

Trends in Montana Teen Pregnancies and Their Outcomes: 1981~1995

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
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Note: This is the electronic version of this document. This version does **not** include the Montana Teen Pregnancy Rates by County section. They can be accessed in spreadsheet format (Excel and Lotus) via METNET and Internet sites.

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REPORT SUMMARY

Percentage of Pregnancies to Teens

The proportion of Montana pregnancies that were to teens remained substantially the same from 1981 to 1995.

Teen Pregnancy Outcomes

Montana teen live births outnumbered abortions by almost two to one in the fifteen year period from 1981-1995.

Age of Teens who became Pregnant

Most teen pregnancies, live births, abortions, and fetal deaths in Montana occurred to teens aged 18-19 years.

Number of Teen Pregnancies

The number of reported pregnancies, live births and abortions in Montana declined for all teens over the 15 years from 1981 to 1995.

Teen Pregnancy Rates

Pregnancy rates for 18-19 year old teens in Montana declined 24 percent and pregnancy rates for 15-17 year old teens declined 8 percent from 1981 to 1995.

Ratio of Abortions to Live Births

The ratio of abortions to live births to has declined from a high of 606 in 1989 to a low of 403 in 1995 for Montana resident teens aged 15-19.

Teen Fetal Deaths

Fetal deaths to Montana teens represented less than 1 percent of the reported teen pregnancy outcomes.

Teen Prior Pregnancies

During 1991-1995, approximately one out of four Montana teens who had a live birth or an abortion indicated that they had had a prior pregnancy.

Race of Teen Mothers

During 1981-1995, approximately one out of five Montana Native American births was to a teen; while approximately one out of ten Montana White births was to a teen.

One out of five Montana teen births was to a Native American mother during the 1991-1995.

On average Montana Native American teens gave birth at a younger ages than White teens during 1981-1995.

Marital Status of Teen Mothers

Births to unmarried teens comprised approximately one out of three of Montana's nonmarital births during 1981-1995.

The percentage of births to Montana White teens who were not married at any time during their pregnancy has increased from 39 percent in 1981 to 70 percent in 1995.

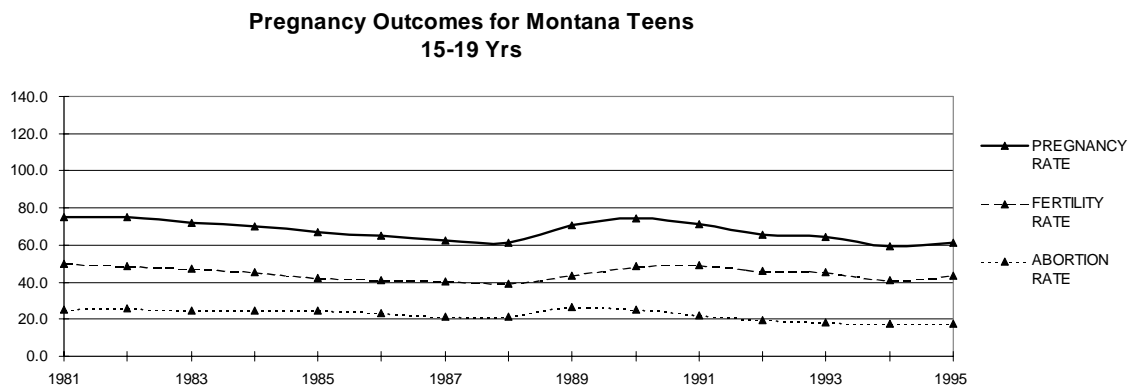
Regional Comparison of Teen Pregnancy Rates

Of surrounding states, only North Dakota had a lower teen birth rate than Montana in 1994.

County Teen Pregnancy Rates

Of the 17 counties with a five-year (1991-1995) teen pregnancy rate higher than the state average -- nine include at least some portion of an Indian Reservation and five have more than 700 females aged 15-19.

The following chart illustrates the changes in Montana teen pregnancy, fertility (birth) and abortion rates from 1981 to 1995 for females aged 15-19.



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INTRODUCTION

Purpose

Teen pregnancy has been touted as a major public health problem in the United States since the 1970s. This report presents Montana data on teen (age 19 and under) pregnancy for 1981-1995, compares Montana to the national picture and points out some emerging trends. Five-year averages for teen pregnancy outcomes (live births, abortions, and fetal deaths) are examined.

Strategies to reduce teen pregnancies are reviewed and recommendations for teen pregnancy prevention efforts are presented.

Sources of Data

The primary source for Montana teen pregnancy outcome data is the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services, Division of Operations and Technology, Vital Statistics Bureau (subsequently referred to as the Montana Vital Statistics Bureau). While the Montana Vital Statistics Bureau provided much of the raw data for this report and reviewed drafts, the staff performed no analysis and drew none of the conclusions presented here.

National teen pregnancy data come from the National Center for Health Statistics (Centers for Disease Control & Prevention), the Alan Guttmacher Institute, Child Trends, Inc., and the Advocates for Youth (formerly The Center for Population Options).

U.S. Census Bureau population enumerations are used for the 1990 census year. Population estimates for inter-census years, used to estimate age-specific rates, were provided by the Montana Department of Commerce, using the 1992 Regional Economic Projections Series (May 1993) and 1994 Regional Economic Projections Series (May 1995), NPA Data Services, Inc. (Washington, D.C.). This source is also used for county level population estimates by age and sex.

Data Organization and Analysis

Some residents may give birth or experience a fetal death while outside of Montana. The Montana Vital Statistics Bureau receives reports of these events from other states and nations. Therefore, the birth and fetal death data used for this report is resident data. No reports of induced abortion are received from outside of Montana. Induced abortion frequencies, therefore, are confined to Montana occurrences to Montana residents.

During the fifteen year period examined in this report, the number of fetal deaths in Montana were less than one percent of all teen pregnancy outcomes. The very small number of events makes it difficult to draw reliable conclusions from the fetal death data. Fetal death occurrences are included to provide a complete picture of pregnancy outcomes.

All the rates given are estimates. Slight anomalies in trends may be caused by co-mingling Census and NPA population estimates. All age-specific rates, such as rates for 15-17 year olds, are based on proportion of the NPA-provided population estimates given for 15-19 year olds. At the county level, rates are computed only for the age range 15-19 years, as populations for this age cohort are small in Montana counties.

In many national reports on teen pregnancy, the age group “15-19” years is used. This report uses the following age groupings: “All teens” (any person under age 20), “18-19”, “15-17”, and “less than 15 years”. Young teens (age 15-17) are different in many respects from older teens, so they are identified separately in some of the tables. Grouping them into a “15-19” category masks the characteristics of the sub-groups. When helpful, subgroups are shown separately.

In some of the tables, the “less than 15” age group is not used as Montana has very few pregnancies to females under 15 years. Summary tables note the occurrences for very young teens.

For the purpose of brevity the following terms will be used for the remainder of the report:

- “Pregnancy” includes those pregnancies whose outcomes were reported in Montana vital statistic records.
- “Births” means live births reported in Montana vital statistic records.
- “Abortions” are reported legal induced abortions occurring in Montana.

Refer to the list of definitions on page 4, for complete explanation of these terms.

Racial Comparisons

In this report comparisons are made between Whites and Native Americans. Native Americans are the largest minority group in Montana, making up about 6 percent of the state population according to the 1990 census. Other non-White and non-Native American races and ethnic groups comprise about 1.3 percent of the population.

Live births are the pregnancy outcomes in Montana for which comparisons between White females and Native American females are most reliable. Births to Whites and Native Americans account for the largest portion of the teen birth picture in the state.

Comparison of Whites and Native American abortions and fetal deaths are unreliable because these records show a greater proportion of "unknowns" for race/ethnicity than do birth records, and because of the small number of events.

County-Level Teen Pregnancy Data

County tables of teen pregnancy outcomes (live births, abortions, and fetal deaths) for 1981 through 1995 are included for teens aged 15-19. Also included in the tables are the percentages of non-marital births compared to total Montana births.

Five-year "rolling average" rates were calculated for the county tables. For many counties the estimated populations for female teens are so small and the fluctuations in occurrences for pregnancies and their outcomes are so great from year to year that five-year rates render a more reliable picture of the events. No rates are calculated for fetal deaths, as the numbers are too small.

For example, the 1995 five-year pregnancy rate was calculated by summing all the pregnancies for the years 1991-1995, dividing by the estimated female teen population for the five years and multiplying by 1,000. The 1994 five-year rate used numbers from 1990-1994, and so on backwards in time. If there were fewer than 20 events or the total population estimate of female teens for the five year period from 1991 to 1995 was less than 100, then no rates were computed because they would be unreliable.

Definition of Terms

Induced Abortion	A legal act or operation that is intended to terminate a pregnancy without live birth.
Abortion Rate	The number of induced abortions reported to MT-DPHHS per 1,000 females aged 15-44 for a given time period; age-specific abortions rates are calculated using the population of females aged 15 and older.
Abortion Ratio	The number of induced abortions reported to MT-DPHHS compared to the number of live births. In this report the ratio is the number of induced abortions per 1,000 live births.
Adult	An individual 20 years old or older.
Age-Specific Rate	The number of occurrences per 1,000 individuals in a specific age range, such as females aged 15-19 in a given time period. Most rates in this report are age-specific rates.
Birth Rate	The number of live births per 1,000 individuals in the population in a given time period. The teen birth rate is the number of live births to females under 20 years per 1,000 population aged 15-19.
Fertility Rate	The number of live births compared to an estimate of the population at risk of giving birth. The denominator is limited to women in the main childbearing ages. For example, the teen fertility rate is calculated based upon the number of 15-19 year old females although births to teens under 15 are included in the calculation.
Fetal Death	The birth of a fetus that shows no evidence of life after complete birth (that is, no action of the heart, breathing, or movement of voluntary muscles), when the fetus weighs at least 500 grams or is at least 20 weeks gestational age.
Infant Death	The death of an individual less than one year old.
Live Birth	The birth of a child who shows evidence of life after complete birth. Evidence of life includes heart action, breathing or movement of voluntary muscles.
Low Birth Weight	The weight of a live-born infant at 2,500 grams (about 5 lbs. 8 oz.) or less.
Nonmarital Birth	A live birth to a female who was not married at any time during the pregnancy.
Nonmarital Birth Rate	The proportion of nonmarital births in all live births; that is, the number of nonmarital births per 100 live births.
Older Teen	An individual 18 to 19 years old.
Pregnancy Outcome	The result of a pregnancy: a live birth, an induced abortion, or a fetal death. The number of pregnancies in a given year is the sum of reported live births, induced abortions, and fetal deaths.
Pregnancy Rate	The number of reported pregnancies per 1,000 females aged 15-44 for a given time period; the teen rate is the number of pregnancies to females under 20 years old per 1,000 females aged 15-19.
Resident/Residence	For births and fetal deaths, the usual place of residence of the mother. For abortions, the usual place of residence of the patient.
Teen/Teenager	For this report, a teenager is any individual 19 years and under. Specific age groupings are indicated when needed.
Very Young Teen	An individual less than 15 years old.
Young Teen	An individual 15 to 17 years old.

MONTANA TEEN PREGNANCY STATISTICS

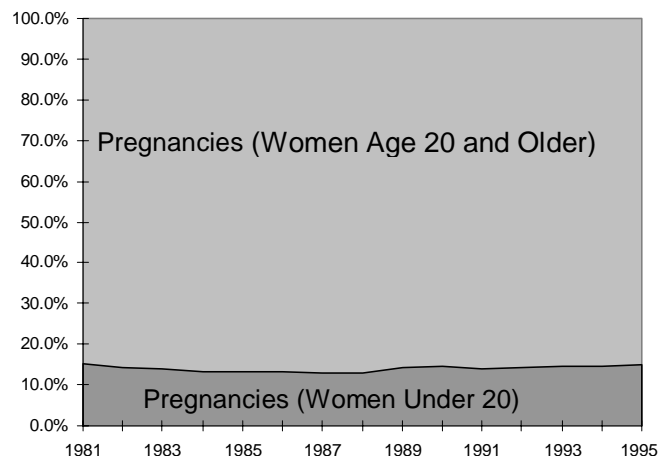
The section describes in detail the Montana teen pregnancy statistics for the years 1981 through 1995. At least one in every 16 female teenagers aged 15-19 years in Montana became pregnant in 1995. In the United States an estimated one in nine teen females experienced a pregnancy.

Percentage of Pregnancies to Teens

The proportion of Montana pregnancies that were to teens remained substantially the same from 1981 to 1995.

The percentage of pregnancies to teens in Montana varied between 13 and 15 percent of all Montana pregnancies during the fifteen year period from 1981-1995.

Figure 1 - Percentage of Montana Pregnancies in which Age of Female was less than 20 years old;1981 -1995



In Montana in 1995, teens comprised the following percentages of state pregnancy outcomes: 14.9 percent (1,999) of all pregnancies; 12.7 percent (1,410) of all births; 26 percent (578) of all abortions; and 16.4 percent (11) of all fetal deaths.

In 1981, Montana teens comprised the following percentages: 15.1 (2,646) percent of the pregnancies, 12.2 (1,750) percent of the births, 28.2 (882) percent of the abortions, and 16.5 (14) percent of the fetal deaths. Table 5 (page 14) shows the number of pregnancies, births, abortions, and fetal deaths to Montanans for the fifteen year period from 1981-1995 for each age group: less than 15, 15-17, 18-19 and All Teens.

Teen Pregnancy Outcomes

Montana teen live births outnumbered abortions by almost two to one in the fifteen year period from 1981-1995.

Most Montana teens pregnancies resulted in a live birth. The older teens (18-19) had a slightly higher proportion of births (68.7%) than 15-17 year olds (61.4%).

Figure 2 summarizes all teen pregnancies from 1981 to 1995 by pregnancy outcome (birth, abortion or fetal death). In the last five years the proportion of pregnancy outcomes resulting in an abortion dropped to approximately 30 percent and live births accounted for approximately 70 percent.

Figure 2 - Montana Teen Pregnancy Outcomes;1981-1995

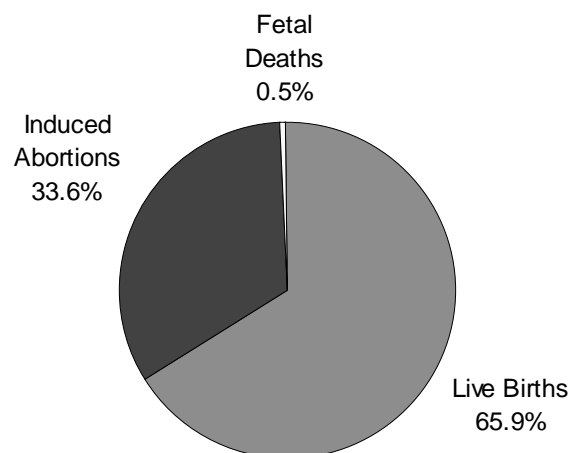


Table 3 summarizes all teen pregnancies during 1981-1995 by outcome for age groups: less than 15, 15-17, 18-19 and All Teens. More than half of the pregnancies to females less than 15 years old resulted in an abortion.

Table 3 - Percent Distribution of Pregnancies by Outcome and Age of Teen: Montana 1981-1995

	Less than 15	15-17	18-19	All Teens
Live Births	42.9%	61.4%	68.7%	65.9%
Induced Abortion	56.4%	38.2%	30.8%	33.6%
Fetal Deaths	0.8%	0.4%	0.5%	0.5%
All Pregnancies	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Teen Pregnancy Outcomes by Age

Most teen pregnancies, live births, abortions, and fetal deaths in Montana occurred to teens aged 18-19 years.

Most Montana teen pregnancies (regardless of outcome) are to teens age 18-19. However, in the most recent five year period (1991-1995) the percentage of teen pregnancies to the 15-17 age group rose to 34.9%, up from 31.2% during 1981-1985.

Figure 3 - Montana Teen Pregnancies by Age Group; 1981-1995

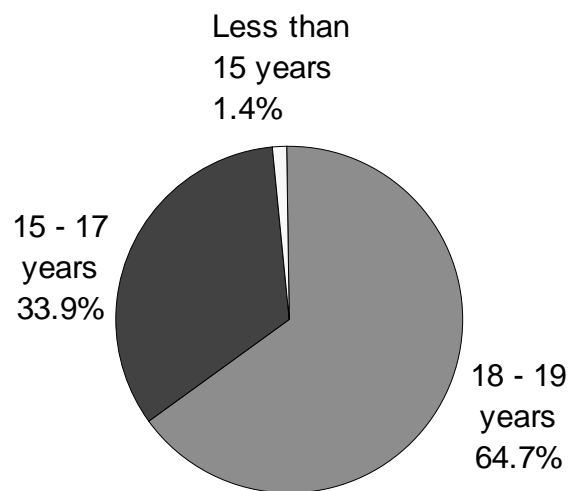


Figure 3 summarizes all teen pregnancies from 1981 to 1995 by age group. Table 4 shows the percentage of each teen pregnancy outcome attributed to each age range for years 1981-1995.

Table 4 - Percentage Distribution of Teens by Pregnancy Outcomes: Montana 1981-1995

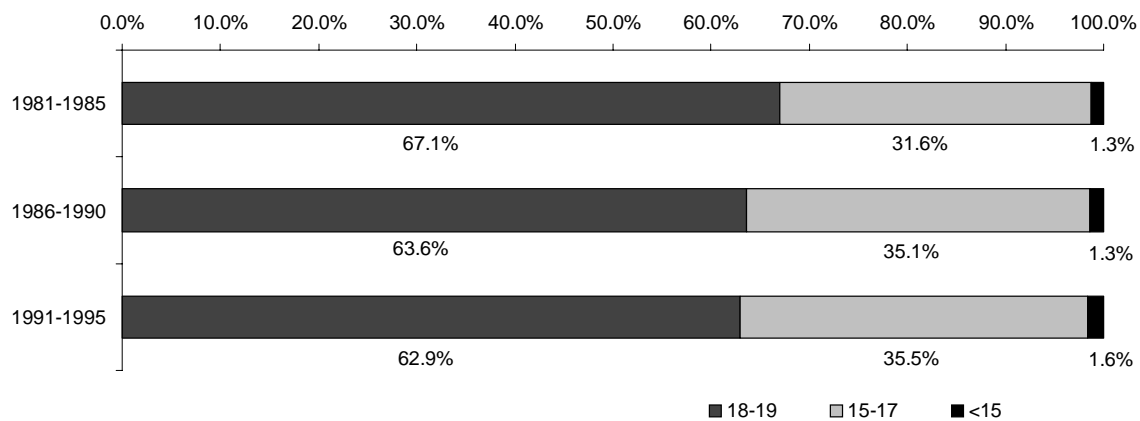
	Pregnancies	Births	Abortions	Fetal Deaths
<15 years	1.4%	0.9%	2.4%	1.9%
15 - 17 years	33.9%	31.6%	38.4%	27.7%
18 - 19 years	64.7%	67.5%	59.2%	70.3%
All Teens	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

The number of reported pregnancies, live births and abortions declined for all teens over the 15 years from 1981 to 1995.

The number of pregnancies to Montana teens decreased over the 15 years. Among young teens there was a 14 percent reduction in the number of pregnancies from 1981 to 1995 -- with a 30 % reduction experienced among older teens.

Figure 4 depicts the five-year percentage distribution of pregnancies by age. The number of pregnancies to teenagers who reside in Montana are listed in Table 7 (page 17) by the age of teen for the years 1981-1995.

Figure 4 - Five-Year Percentage Distribution of Montana Teen Pregnancies by Age Group



Teen Pregnancy Rates

Pregnancy rates for 18-19 year old teens declined 24 percent and pregnancy rates for 15-17 year old teens declined 8 percent from 1981 to 1995.

Changes in the number of teen pregnancies may be caused by changes in the number of teens in Montana. Calculating pregnancy rates, which compare the numbers of pregnancies to the estimated numbers of females in an age group, standardizes pregnancy numbers by adjusting for population changes. This allows one to assess whether the decline in the number of pregnancies is due to a decline in population or whether a smaller proportion of the population is becoming pregnant.

The pregnancy rate, the number of pregnancies per 1,000 teen women age 18-19, declined from a high of 128 in 1981 to a low of 93 in 1988. Then the rate began to increase in 1989, climbing to a rate of 118 in 1991, before resuming a downward trend to a low of 97 in

1995. This represents a 24% decline in the pregnancy rate for 18-19 year olds from 1981 to 1995.

The proportion of these pregnancies ending in a live birth increased, and the proportion of pregnancies resulting in induced abortion decreased from 1981 to 1995. When calculating the fertility rate (live births per 1,000 females in age group) we see a 12 percent reduction in births to women age 18-19 from 1981 through 1995.

In summary from 1981 to 1995, older teens (age 18-19) experienced a :

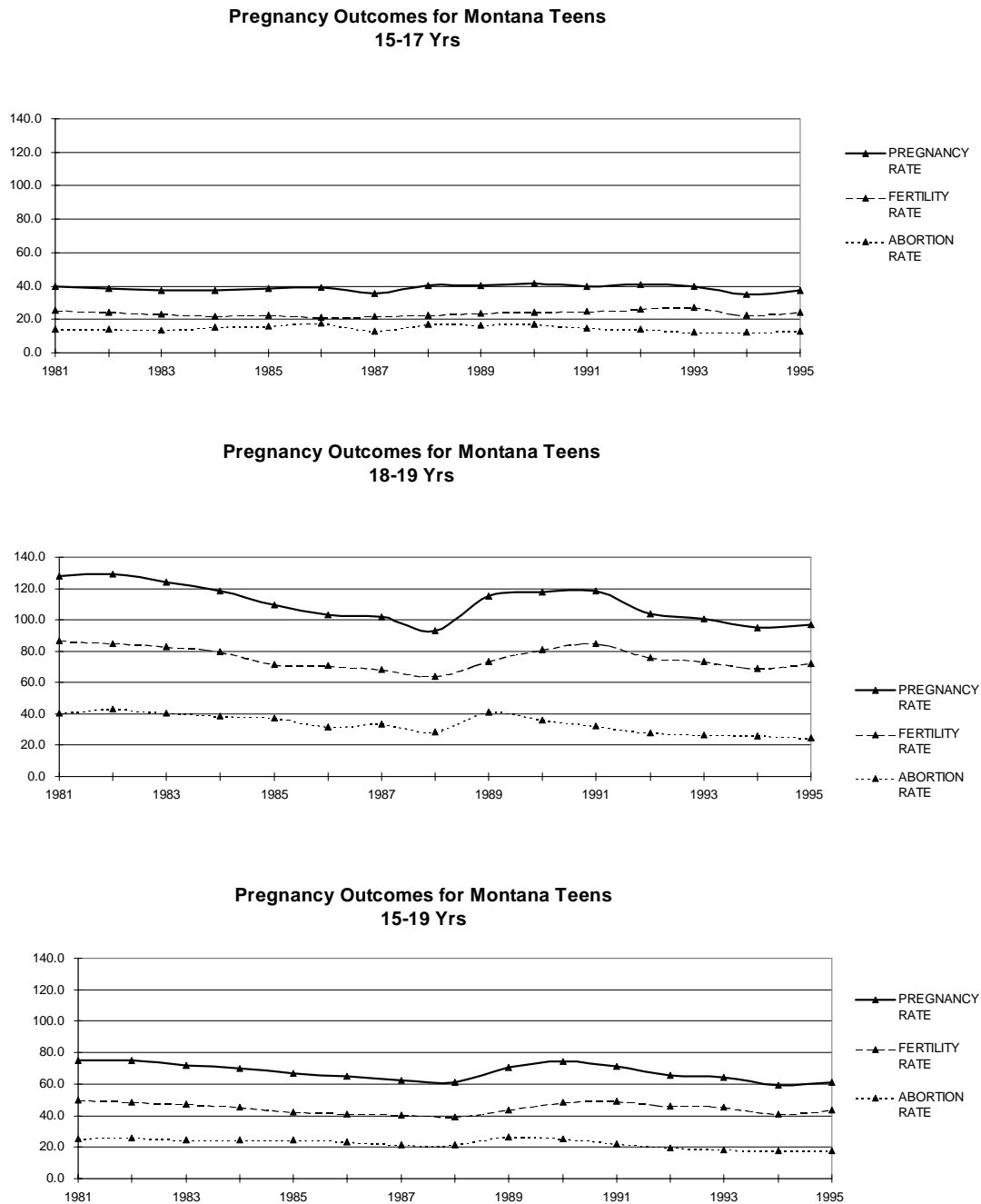
- 30 percent reduction in the number of pregnancies
- 24 percent reduction in the pregnancy rate and
- 12 percent reduction in their fertility (birth) rate.

For the same period, young teens (age 15-17) experienced a:

- 14 percent reduction in the number of pregnancies
- 8 percent reduction in the pregnancy rate
- 5 percent reduction in the fertility (birth) rate

Table 5 depicts age specific rates of teen pregnancy, fertility, and abortions by age group. Table 6 (page 16) summarizes for each age group the estimated age-specific rates of births, fertility, abortions and pregnancies for the years 1981-1995. Rates are useful for describing the prevalence of pregnancies, births and abortions in each age group.

Figure 5 - Montana Teen Fertility, Birth and Abortion Age Specific Rates; 1981-1995



group AGE SPECIFIC PREGNANCY RATE = Number of teen pregnancies (births, fetal deaths & abortions) for specific age divided by the number of female teens in that age group times 1,000.

AGE SPECIFIC FERTILITY (BIRTH) RATE = Number of births to teens in specified age group divided by the number of female teens in that age group times 1,000.

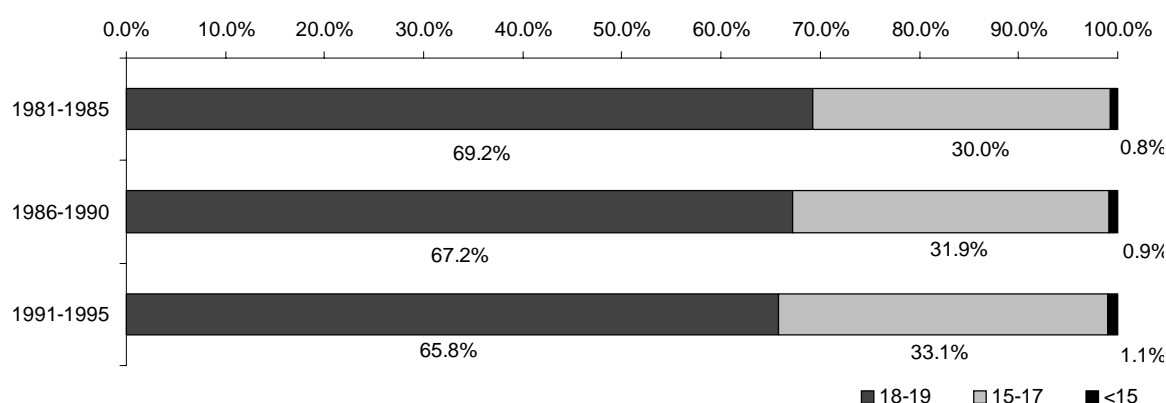
AGE SPECIFIC ABORTION RATE = Number of abortions occurring in Montana to Montana teen residents for specific age group divided by the number of female teens in that age group times 1,000.

Teen Pregnancies Resulting in Live Births

Teens who gave birth were more likely to be young teens (age 15-17) in the past five years than ten years ago. In 1991-1995, the percentage of live births to teens ages 15-17 was 33.1 percent, up from 30 percent during the 1981-1985 period.

Figure 6 depicts the five-year percentage distribution of live births by age. The number of live births to teen who reside in Montana is listed in Table 8 (page 17) by age for the years 1981-1995.

Figure 6 - Five-Year Percentage Distribution of Montana Teen Live Births by Age Group

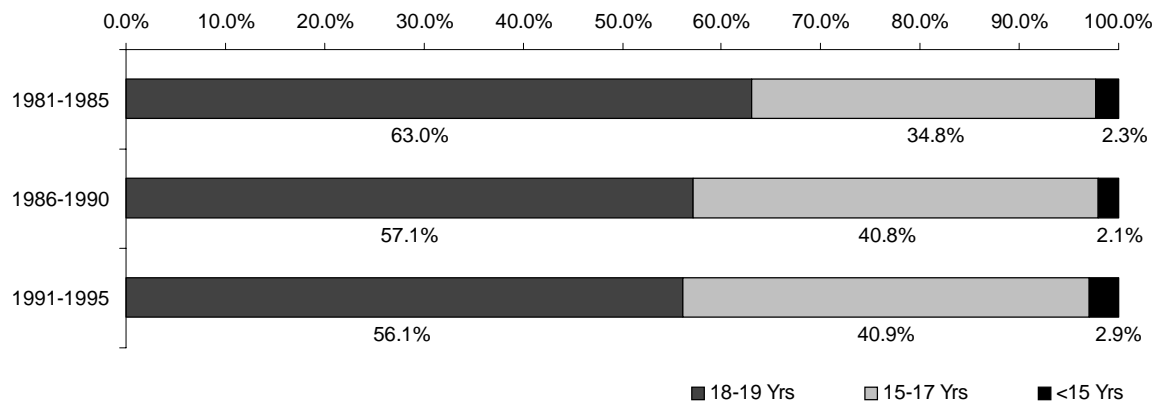


Teen Pregnancies Resulting in Abortion

In 1981, 33 percent of teen pregnancies resulted in an abortion. By 1995, 29 percent of teen pregnancies resulted in an abortion. Teens aged 15-17 had a slightly higher proportion of abortions than the older teens (34.4 percent compared to 25.2 percent) in 1995.

Over the last fifteen years the number of abortions to Montana teens decreased from 882 in 1981 to 578 in 1995. Figure 7 depicts the five-year percentage distribution of abortions by age group. The number of abortions in Montana to Montana teenagers is listed in Table 9 (page 18) by age for the years 1981-1995. During the most recent five year period (1991-1995) the percentage of abortions to teens ages 15-17 has increased to 40.9%; up from 34.8% during 1981-1985.

Figure 7 - Five-Year Percentage Distribution of Montana Teen Abortions by AgeGroup



Teen Abortion Ratio

The ratio of abortions to live births has declined from a high of 606 in 1989 to a low of 403 in 1995 for Montana resident teens aged 15-19.

It is helpful to use the abortion ratio (number of abortions to an age group per 1,000 live births for same age group) to gauge the prevalence of abortion as a pregnancy outcome. Annual abortion ratios show that Montana teens who became pregnant experienced in general about half as many induced abortions as live births.

Over the 15-year period, there was a decrease in the ratio of abortions to live births for all age groups of Montana teens. The lowest abortion ratio for the 15-19 age group during this period was 403 in 1995. The highest abortion ratio for the 15-19 age group during this period was 606 in 1989. Table 11 (page 19) lists the number of abortions and live births to Montana resident teens by age group for each year from 1981-1995; as well as the corresponding ratio of abortions per 1000 live births.

The younger teens, 15-17 years old, experienced slightly more abortions compared to live births than their older teen counterparts. The ratio for 18-19 year olds declined from 470 abortions for every 1,000 live births in 1981 to 340 per 1,000 live births in 1995. The 15-17 year olds showed an increase in abortions per 1,000 live births through the 1980s; peaking in 1986 at 850 per 1,000 then dipped back to 529 abortions per 1,000 live births in 1995.

Teen Pregnancies Resulting in Fetal Death

Fetal deaths to Montana teens represented less than 1 percent of the reported teen pregnancy outcomes with more fetal deaths occurring to the 18-19 year old group than any other age group .

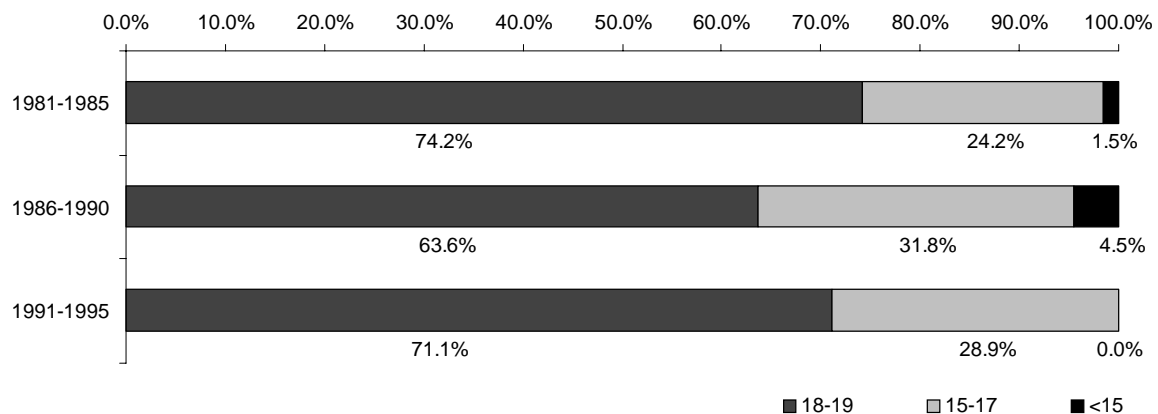
1995.

During the fifteen year period there have been fewer than 16 fetal deaths per year to Montana teens. Figure 8 depicts the five-year percentage distribution of fetal death by age group. The number of fetal deaths to Montana teenagers is listed in Table 10 (page 18) for the years 1981-

Fetal deaths to teens represented between 10 to 14 percent of all fetal deaths to Montanans. Since teen pregnancies represent between 13 and 15 percent of Montana's pregnancies, it appears that teens experience fetal deaths at approximately the same rate as adults.

Note this discussion does not cover early fetal deaths (also called spontaneous abortions or miscarriages) because fetal deaths are reported only when the fetus has reached 20 weeks gestation or weighs more than 500 grams.

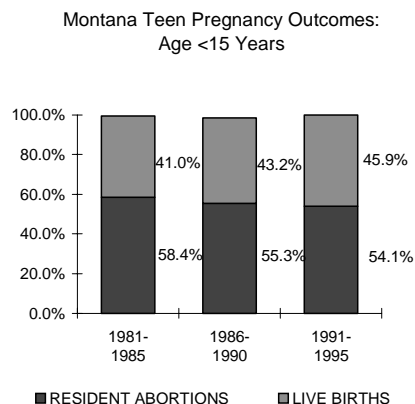
Figure 8 - Five-Year Percentage Distribution of Montana Fetal Deaths by Age Group



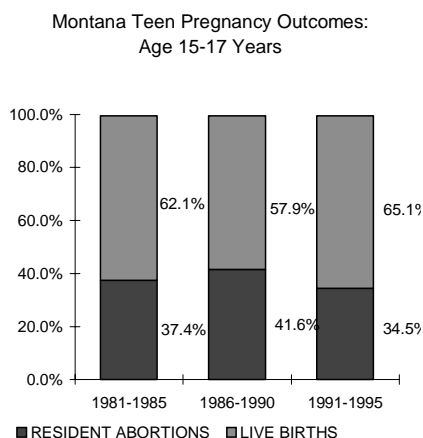
Pregnancy Outcomes to Montana Teens

Table 5 - Montana Resident Teen Pregnancy Outcomes: Distribution by Age Ranges; 1981-1995

AGE: < 15 YEARS							
YEAR	TOTAL PREGS	LIVE BIRTHS	%TOTAL	RESIDENT ABORTIONS	%TOTAL	FETAL DEATHS	%TOTAL
1981	27	14	51.9%	13	48.1%	0	0.0%
1982	33	13	39.4%	19	57.6%	1	3.0%
1983	35	11	31.4%	24	68.6%	0	0.0%
1984	32	14	43.8%	18	56.3%	0	0.0%
1985	32	11	34.4%	21	65.6%	0	0.0%
1986	21	7	33.3%	14	66.7%	0	0.0%
1987	26	11	42.3%	15	57.7%	0	0.0%
1988	21	7	33.3%	13	61.9%	1	4.8%
1989	44	22	50.0%	21	47.7%	1	2.3%
1990	20	10	50.0%	10	50.0%	0	0.0%
1991	26	13	50.0%	13	50.0%	0	0.0%
1992	39	15	38.5%	24	61.5%	0	0.0%
1993	29	15	51.7%	14	48.3%	0	0.0%
1994	39	18	46.2%	21	53.8%	0	0.0%
1995	26	12	46.2%	14	53.8%	0	0.0%
1981-1985			41.0%		58.4%		0.6%
1986-1990			43.2%		55.3%		1.5%
1991-1995			45.9%		54.1%		0.0%



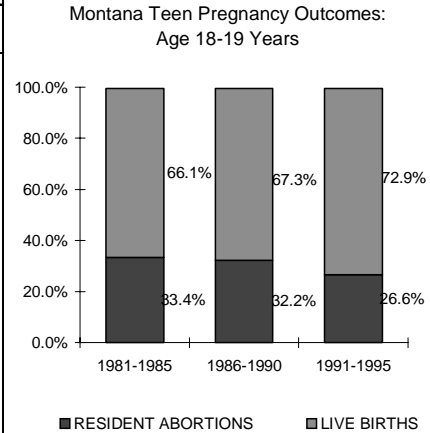
AGE: 15 - 17 YEARS							
YEAR	TOTAL PREGS	LIVE BIRTHS	%TOTAL PREGS	RESIDENT ABORTIONS	%TOTAL PREGS	FETAL DEATHS	%TOTAL PREGS
1981	834	530	63.5%	302	36.2%	2	0.2%
1982	786	492	62.6%	290	36.9%	4	0.5%
1983	735	460	62.6%	274	37.3%	1	0.1%
1984	723	425	58.8%	293	40.5%	5	0.7%
1985	729	421	57.8%	304	41.7%	4	0.5%
1986	731	394	53.9%	335	45.8%	2	0.3%
1987	646	402	62.2%	241	37.3%	3	0.5%
1988	704	400	56.8%	301	42.8%	3	0.4%
1989	688	403	58.6%	281	40.8%	4	0.6%
1990	684	402	58.8%	280	40.9%	2	0.3%
1991	644	403	62.6%	238	37.0%	3	0.5%
1992	717	464	64.7%	251	35.0%	2	0.3%
1993	732	499	68.2%	232	31.7%	1	0.1%
1994	676	438	64.8%	234	34.6%	4	0.6%
1995	720	469	65.1%	248	34.4%	3	0.4%
1981-1985			62.1%		37.4%		0.5%
1986-1990			57.9%		41.6%		0.4%
1991-1995			65.1%		34.5%		0.4%



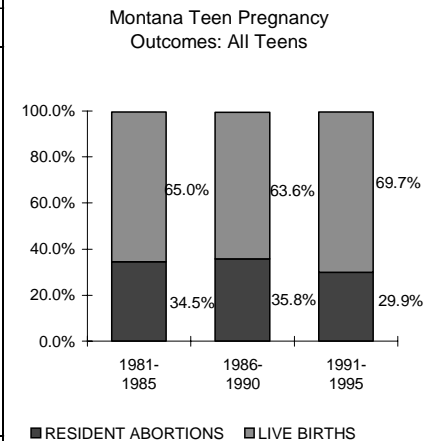
Pregnancy Outcomes to Montana Teens

Table 3 Continued - Montana Resident Teen Pregnancy Outcomes
Distribution by Age Ranges; 1981-1995

AGE: 18-19 YEARS							
YEAR	TOTAL PREGS	LIVE BIRTHS	%TOTAL PREGS	RESIDENT ABORTIONS	%TOTAL PREGS	FETAL DEATHS	%TOTAL PREGS
1981	1,785	1,206	67.6%	567	31.8%	12	0.7%
1982	1,746	1,151	65.9%	585	33.5%	10	0.6%
1983	1,634	1,090	66.7%	535	32.7%	9	0.6%
1984	1,523	1,022	67.1%	495	32.5%	6	0.4%
1985	1,384	902	65.2%	470	34.0%	12	0.9%
1986	1,281	877	68.5%	397	31.0%	7	0.5%
1987	1,228	823	67.0%	403	32.8%	2	0.2%
1988	1,093	749	68.5%	334	30.6%	10	0.9%
1989	1,301	830	63.8%	466	35.8%	5	0.4%
1990	1,351	932	69.0%	415	30.7%	4	0.3%
1991	1,274	913	71.7%	349	27.4%	12	0.9%
1992	1,217	889	73.0%	326	26.8%	2	0.2%
1993	1,231	899	73.0%	324	26.3%	8	0.6%
1994	1,217	881	72.4%	334	27.4%	2	0.2%
1995	1,253	929	74.1%	316	25.2%	8	0.6%
1981-1985			66.1%		33.4%		0.5%
1986-1990			67.3%		32.2%		0.4%
1991-1995			72.9%		26.6%		0.5%



ALL TEENS							
YEAR	TOTAL PREGS	LIVE BIRTHS	%TOTAL PREGS	RESIDENT ABORTIONS	%TOTAL PREGS	FETAL DEATHS	%TOTAL PREGS
1981	2,646	1,750	66.1%	882	33.3%	14	0.5%
1982	2,565	1,656	64.6%	894	34.9%	15	0.6%
1983	2,404	1,561	64.9%	833	34.7%	10	0.4%
1984	2,278	1,461	64.1%	806	35.4%	11	0.5%
1985	2,145	1,334	62.2%	795	37.1%	16	0.7%
1986	2,039	1,278	62.7%	746	36.6%	15	0.7%
1987	1,908	1,236	64.8%	659	34.5%	13	0.7%
1988	1,812	1,156	63.8%	648	35.8%	8	0.4%
1989	2,038	1,255	61.6%	768	37.7%	15	0.7%
1990	2,060	1,344	65.2%	705	34.2%	11	0.5%
1991	1,944	1,329	68.4%	600	30.9%	15	0.8%
1992	1,973	1,368	69.3%	601	30.5%	4	0.2%
1993	1,992	1,413	70.9%	570	28.6%	9	0.5%
1994	1,932	1,337	69.2%	589	30.5%	6	0.3%
1995	1,999	1,410	70.5%	578	28.9%	11	0.6%
1981-1985			65.0%		34.5%		0.5%
1986-1990			63.6%		35.8%		0.6%
1991-1995			69.7%		29.9%		0.5%



Estimated Rates for Teen Pregnancy Outcomes

Table 6 - Montana Resident Teen Pregnancy Outcomes:
Estimated Rates for Births, Fertility, Abortions, and Pregnancies; 1981-1995

	Montana Teens (15-17 Years)														
	#WOMEN	%	LIVE	%	FERTILITY	%	RESIDENT	%	ABORTION	TOTAL	%	PREGNANCY	%	EST MIDYEAR	
YEAR	15-17	Δ	BIRTHS	Δ	RATE	Δ	ABORTIONS	Δ	RATE	PREG.	Δ	RATE	Δ	POPULATION	
1981	20,898	-2.5%	530	-3.3%	25.4	-0.8%	302	-5.3%	14.5	834	-4.5%	39.9	-2.0%	1981 43,278	
1982	20,310	-2.8%	492	-7.2%	24.2	-4.5%	290	-4.0%	14.3	786	-5.8%	38.7	-3.0%	1982 42,060	
1983	19,734	-2.8%	460	-6.5%	23.3	-3.8%	274	-5.5%	13.9	735	-6.5%	37.2	-3.8%	1983 40,896	
1984	19,254	-2.4%	425	-7.6%	22.1	-5.3%	293	6.9%	15.2	723	-1.6%	37.6	0.8%	1984 39,894	
1985	18,924	-1.7%	421	-0.9%	22.2	0.8%	304	3.8%	16.1	729	0.8%	38.5	2.6%	1985 39,216	
1986	18,624	-1.6%	394	-6.4%	21.2	-4.9%	335	10.2%	18.0	731	0.3%	39.3	1.9%	1986 38,616	
1987	18,102	-2.8%	402	2.0%	22.2	5.0%	241	-28.1%	13.3	646	-11.6%	35.7	-9.1%	1987 37,542	
1988	17,550	-3.0%	400	-0.5%	22.8	2.6%	301	24.9%	17.2	704	9.0%	40.1	12.4%	1988 36,414	
1989	16,944	-3.5%	403	0.8%	23.8	4.4%	281	-6.6%	16.6	688	-2.3%	40.6	1.2%	1989 35,160	
1990*	16,548	-2.3%	402	-0.2%	24.3	2.1%	280	-0.4%	16.9	683	-0.7%	41.3	1.6%	1990* 34,571	
1991	16,122	-2.6%	403	0.2%	25.0	2.9%	238	-15.0%	14.8	644	-5.7%	39.9	-3.2%	1991 33,306	
1992	17,610	9.2%	464	15.1%	26.3	5.4%	251	5.5%	14.3	717	11.3%	40.7	1.9%	1992 36,522	
1993	18,390	4.4%	499	7.5%	27.1	3.0%	232	-7.6%	12.6	732	2.1%	39.8	-2.2%	1993 38,160	
1994	19,218	4.5%	438	-12.2%	22.8	-16.0%	234	0.9%	12.2	676	-7.7%	35.2	-11.6%	1994 39,876	
1995	19,344	0.7%	469	7.1%	24.2	6.4%	248	6.0%	12.8	720	6.5%	37.2	5.8%	1995 40,140	
1981-1985					23.5				14.8			38.4			
1986-1990					22.8				16.4			39.3			
1991-1995					25.1				13.3			38.5			

	Montana Teens (18-19 Years)													
YEAR	#WOMEN 18-19	% Δ	LIVE BIRTHS	% Δ	FERTILITY RATE	% Δ	RESIDENT ABORTIONS	% Δ	ABORTION RATE	TOTAL PREG.	% Δ	PREGNANCY RATE	% Δ	EST MIDYEAR POPULATION
1981	13,932	-4.7%	1,206	1.0%	86.6	5.9%	567	-16.6%	40.7	1785	-5.0%	128.1	-0.4%	1981 28852
1982	13,540	-2.8%	1,151	-4.6%	85.0	-1.8%	585	3.2%	43.2	1746	-2.2%	129.0	0.6%	1982 28040
1983	13,156	-2.8%	1,090	-5.3%	82.9	-2.5%	535	-8.5%	40.7	1634	-6.4%	124.2	-3.7%	1983 27264
1984	12,836	-2.4%	1,022	-6.2%	79.6	-3.9%	495	-7.5%	38.6	1523	-6.8%	118.7	-4.5%	1984 26596
1985	12,616	-1.7%	902	-11.7%	71.5	-10.2%	470	-5.1%	37.3	1384	-9.1%	109.7	-7.5%	1985 26144
1986	12,416	-1.6%	877	-2.8%	70.6	-1.2%	397	-15.5%	32.0	1281	-7.4%	103.2	-6.0%	1986 25744
1987	12,068	-2.8%	823	-6.2%	68.2	-3.5%	403	1.5%	33.4	1228	-4.1%	101.8	-1.4%	1987 25028
1988	11,700	-3.0%	749	-9.0%	64.0	-6.1%	334	-17.1%	28.5	1093	-11.0%	93.4	-8.2%	1988 24276
1989	11,296	-3.5%	830	10.8%	73.5	14.8%	466	39.5%	41.3	1301	19.0%	115.2	23.3%	1989 23440
1990*	11450	1.4%	932	12.3%	81.4	10.8%	415	-10.9%	36.2	1352	3.9%	118.1	2.5%	1990* 22242
1991	10748	-6.1%	913	-2.0%	84.9	4.4%	349	-15.9%	32.5	1274	-5.8%	118.5	0.4%	1991 22204
1992	11740	9.2%	889	-2.6%	75.7	-10.9%	326	-6.6%	27.8	1217	-4.5%	103.7	-12.5%	1992 24348
1993	12260	4.4%	899	1.1%	73.3	-3.2%	324	-0.6%	26.4	1231	1.2%	100.4	-3.1%	1993 25440
1994	12812	4.5%	881	-2.0%	68.8	-6.2%	334	3.1%	26.1	1217	-1.1%	95.0	-5.4%	1994 26584
1995	12896	0.7%	929	5.4%	72.0	4.8%	316	-5.4%	24.5	1253	3.0%	97.2	2.3%	1995 26760
1981-1985					81.3				40.1			122.2		
1986-1990					71.5				34.2			106.1		
1991-1995					74.6				27.3			102.4		

	Montana Teens (15-19 Years)													
YEAR	#WOMEN 15-19	% Δ	LIVE BIRTHS	% Δ	FERTILITY RATE	% Δ	RESIDENT ABORTIONS	% Δ	ABORTION RATE	TOTAL PREG.	% Δ	PREGNANCY RATE	% Δ	EST MIDYEAR POPULATION
1981	34,830	-3.4%	1,736	-0.3%	49.8	3.2%	869	-13.0%	24.9	2619	-4.8%	75.2	-1.5%	1981 72130
1982	33,850	-2.8%	1,643	-5.4%	48.5	-2.6%	875	0.7%	25.8	2532	-3.3%	74.8	-0.5%	1982 70100
1983	32,890	-2.8%	1,550	-5.7%	47.1	-2.9%	809	-7.5%	24.6	2369	-6.4%	72.0	-3.7%	1983 68160
1984	32,090	-2.4%	1,447	-6.6%	45.1	-4.3%	788	-2.6%	24.6	2246	-5.2%	70.0	-2.8%	1984 66490
1985	31,540	-1.7%	1,323	-8.6%	41.9	-7.0%	774	-1.8%	24.5	2113	-5.9%	67.0	-4.3%	1985 65360
1986	31,040	-1.6%	1,271	-3.9%	40.9	-2.4%	732	-5.4%	23.6	2012	-4.8%	64.8	-3.2%	1986 64360
1987	30,170	-2.8%	1,225	-3.6%	40.6	-0.8%	654	-10.7%	21.7	1884	-6.4%	62.4	-3.7%	1987 62570
1988	29,250	-3.0%	1,149	-6.2%	39.3	-3.3%	635	-2.9%	21.7	1797	-4.6%	61.4	-1.6%	1988 60690
1989	28,240	-3.5%	1,233	7.3%	43.7	11.1%	747	17.6%	26.5	1989	10.7%	70.4	14.6%	1989 58600
1990*	27,340	-3.2%	1,334	8.2%	48.8	11.8%	695	-7.0%	25.4	2035	2.3%	74.4	5.7%	1990* 56813
1991	26,870	-1.7%	1,321	-1.0%	49.2	0.8%	587	-15.5%	21.8	1923	-5.5%	71.6	-3.9%	1991 55510
1992	29,350	9.2%	1,353	2.4%	46.1	-6.2%	577	-1.7%	19.7	1934	0.6%	65.9	-7.9%	1992 60870
1993	30,650	4.4%	1,398	3.3%	45.6	-1.1%	556	-3.6%	18.1	1963	1.5%	64.0	-2.8%	1993 63600
1994	32,030	4.5%	1,319	-5.7%	41.2	-9.7%	568	2.2%	17.7	1893	-3.6%	59.1	-7.7%	1994 66460
1995	32,240	0.7%	1,398	6.0%	43.4	5.3%	564	-0.7%	17.5	1973	4.2%	61.2	3.5%	1995 66900
1981-1985					46.6				24.9			71.9		
1986-1990					42.5				23.7			66.5		
1991-1995					44.9				18.9			64.1		

Census bureau enumerations are used for 1990.

THE SOURCE FOR POPULATION ESTIMATES IS NPA DATA SERVICES, INC. 6/93 and 6/95;

Processed by the Census & Economic Information Center, MT Department of Commerce

ALL VITAL EVENTS FREQUENCIES PROVIDED BY THE VITAL STATISTICS BUREAU, MT
DEPT. OF PUBLIC HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Montana Teen Pregnancies

*Table 7 - Montana Resident Teen Pregnancies:
Distribution of Occurrences by Age of Female ;1981-1995*

YEAR	PREGNANCIES (includes reported live births, induced abortions and fetal deaths 20 weeks or older)									
	Less than 15			15-17 Yrs			18-19 Yrs			TOTAL MT TEEN PGS (% MT TOT)
	% of Teen Pregs	% MT TOT		% of Teen Pregs	% MT TOT		% of Teen Pregs	% MT TOT		
1981	27	1.0%	0.2%	834	31.5%	4.8%	1785	67.5%	10.2%	2,646 15.1%
1982	33	1.3%	0.2%	786	30.6%	4.4%	1746	68.1%	9.8%	2,565 14.4%
1983	35	1.5%	0.2%	735	30.6%	4.3%	1,634	68.0%	9.5%	2,404 14.0%
1984	32	1.4%	0.2%	723	31.7%	4.2%	1,523	66.9%	8.9%	2,278 13.3%
1985	32	1.5%	0.2%	729	34.0%	4.5%	1,384	64.5%	8.5%	2,145 13.2%
1986	21	1.0%	0.1%	731	36.0%	4.7%	1,281	63.0%	8.3%	2,033 13.2%
1987	26	1.4%	0.2%	646	34.0%	4.4%	1,228	64.6%	8.4%	1,900 13.0%
1988	21	1.2%	0.2%	704	38.7%	5.1%	1,093	60.1%	7.8%	1,818 13.1%
1989	44	2.2%	0.3%	688	33.8%	4.8%	1,301	64.0%	9.1%	2,033 14.2%
1990	20	1.0%	0.1%	684	33.3%	4.8%	1,352	65.8%	9.5%	2,056 14.4%
1991	26	1.3%	0.2%	646	33.1%	4.6%	1,277	65.5%	9.1%	1,949 14.0%
1992	39	2.0%	0.3%	717	36.3%	5.1%	1,217	61.7%	8.7%	1,973 14.1%
1993	29	1.5%	0.2%	732	36.7%	5.3%	1,231	61.8%	9.0%	1,992 14.5%
1994	39	2.0%	0.3%	676	35.0%	5.0%	1,217	63.0%	9.1%	1,932 14.4%
1995	26	1.3%	0.2%	720	36.0%	5.4%	1,253	62.7%	9.3%	1,999 14.9%
1981-1985		1.3%	0.2%		31.6%	4.4%		67.1%	9.4%	14.0%
1986-1990		1.3%	0.2%		35.1%	4.8%		63.6%	8.6%	13.6%
1991-1995		1.6%	0.2%		35.5%	5.1%		62.9%	9.0%	14.4%

Source: Table 30 Montana Vital Statistics Report (1981-1995)

Montana Teen Live Births

*Table 8 - Montana Resident Teens Live Births:
Distribution of Occurrences by Age of Female;1981-1995*

YEAR	LIVE BIRTHS									
	Less than 15			15-17 Yrs			18-19 Yrs			TOTAL MT TEEN BRTHS (% MT TOT)
	% of Teen Births	% MT TOT		% of Teen Births	% MT TOT		% of Teen Births	% MT TOT		
1981	14	0.8%	0.1%	530	30.3%	3.7%	1,206	68.9%	8.4%	1,750 12.2%
1982	13	0.8%	0.1%	492	29.7%	3.4%	1,151	69.5%	7.9%	1,656 11.4%
1983	11	0.7%	0.1%	460	29.5%	3.3%	1,090	69.8%	7.8%	1,561 11.1%
1984	14	1.0%	0.1%	425	29.1%	3.0%	1,022	70.0%	7.2%	1,461 10.3%
1985	11	0.8%	0.1%	421	31.6%	3.1%	902	67.6%	6.7%	1,334 9.9%
1986	7	0.5%	0.1%	394	30.8%	3.1%	877	68.6%	6.9%	1,278 10.0%
1987	11	0.9%	0.1%	402	32.5%	3.3%	823	66.6%	6.7%	1,236 10.1%
1988	7	0.6%	0.1%	400	34.6%	3.4%	749	64.8%	6.4%	1,156 9.9%
1989	20	1.6%	0.2%	403	32.2%	3.5%	830	66.2%	7.1%	1,253 10.7%
1990	10	0.7%	0.1%	402	29.9%	3.5%	932	69.3%	8.0%	1,344 11.6%
1991	13	1.0%	0.1%	403	30.3%	3.5%	913	68.7%	7.9%	1,329 11.6%
1992	15	1.1%	0.1%	464	33.9%	4.0%	889	65.0%	7.8%	1,368 11.9%
1993	15	1.1%	0.1%	499	35.3%	4.4%	899	63.6%	7.9%	1,413 12.4%
1994	18	1.3%	0.2%	438	32.8%	4.0%	881	65.9%	8.0%	1,337 12.1%
1995	12	0.9%	0.1%	469	33.3%	4.2%	929	65.9%	8.3%	1,410 12.7%
1981-1985		0.8%	0.1%		30.0%	3.3%		69.2%	7.6%	11.0%
1986-1990		0.9%	0.1%		31.9%	3.3%		67.2%	7.0%	10.5%
1991-1995		1.1%	0.1%		33.1%	4.0%		65.8%	8.0%	12.1%

Source: Table 30 Montana Vital Statistics Report (1981-1995)

Montana Teen Induced Abortions

*Table 9 - Montana Resident Teen Abortions Occurring in Montana:
Distribution of Occurrences by Age of Female;1981-1995*

YEAR	INDUCED ABORTIONS									TOTAL MT TEEN ABORT	TEEN ABORT (% MT TOT)
	Less than 15	% of Teen Abort	% MT TOT	15-17 Yrs	% of Teen Abort	% MT TOT	18-19 Yrs	% of Teen Abort	% MT TOT		
1981	13	1.5%	0.4%	302	34.2%	9.7%	567	64.3%	18.1%	882	28.2%
1982	19	2.1%	0.6%	290	32.4%	9.0%	585	65.4%	18.2%	894	27.7%
1983	24	2.9%	0.8%	274	32.9%	8.9%	535	64.2%	17.5%	833	27.2%
1984	18	2.2%	0.6%	293	36.4%	10.1%	495	61.4%	17.1%	806	27.9%
1985	21	2.6%	0.8%	304	38.2%	11.2%	470	59.1%	17.3%	795	29.3%
1986	14	1.9%	0.5%	335	44.9%	12.8%	397	53.2%	15.1%	746	28.4%
1987	15	2.3%	0.7%	241	36.6%	10.5%	403	61.2%	17.6%	659	28.7%
1988	13	2.0%	0.6%	301	46.5%	14.0%	334	51.5%	15.5%	648	30.1%
1989	21	2.7%	0.8%	281	36.6%	10.9%	466	60.7%	18.0%	768	29.7%
1990	10	1.4%	0.4%	280	39.7%	10.9%	415	58.9%	16.1%	705	27.4%
1991	13	2.2%	0.5%	238	39.7%	10.0%	349	58.2%	14.7%	600	25.3%
1992	24	4.0%	1.0%	251	41.8%	10.4%	326	54.2%	13.5%	601	24.9%
1993	14	2.5%	0.6%	232	40.7%	10.2%	324	56.8%	14.3%	570	25.1%
1994	21	3.6%	0.9%	234	39.7%	10.2%	334	56.7%	14.6%	589	25.7%
1995	14	2.4%	0.6%	248	42.9%	11.2%	316	54.7%	14.2%	578	26.0%
1981-1985		2.3%	0.6%		34.8%	9.7%		63.0%	17.7%		28.0%
1986-1990		2.1%	0.6%		40.8%	11.8%		57.1%	16.5%		28.8%
1991-1995		2.9%	0.7%		40.9%	10.4%		56.1%	14.2%		25.4%

Source: Table 30 Montana Vital Statistics (1981-1995)

Montana Teen Fetal Deaths

*Table 10 - Montana Resident Teen Fetal Deaths:
Distribution of Occurrences by Age of Female;1981-1995*

YEAR	FETAL DEATHS									TOTAL MT TEEN FDS	TEEN FDS (% MT TOT)
	Less than 15	% of Teen FDs	% MT TOT	15-17 Yrs	% of Teen FDs	% MT TOT	18-19 Yrs	% of Teen FDs	% MT TOT		
1981	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	14.3%	2.4%	12	85.7%	14.1%	14	16.5%
1982	1	6.7%	1.1%	4	26.7%	4.3%	10	66.7%	10.8%	15	16.1%
1983	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	10.0%	1.1%	9	90.0%	9.9%	10	11.0%
1984	0	0.0%	0.0%	5	45.5%	4.5%	6	54.5%	5.5%	11	10.0%
1985	0	0.0%	0.0%	4	25.0%	4.2%	12	75.0%	12.5%	16	16.7%
1986	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	22.2%	2.1%	7	77.8%	7.4%	9	9.5%
1987	0	0.0%	0.0%	3	60.0%	3.1%	2	40.0%	2.1%	5	5.2%
1988	1	7.1%	1.1%	3	21.4%	3.3%	10	71.4%	10.9%	14	15.2%
1989	1	10.0%	1.2%	4	40.0%	4.7%	5	50.0%	5.8%	10	11.6%
1990	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	33.3%	2.6%	4	66.7%	5.1%	6	7.7%
1991	0	0.0%	0.0%	3	20.0%	3.3%	12	80.0%	13.3%	15	16.7%
1992	0	0.0%	0.0%	2	50.0%	2.4%	2	50.0%	2.4%	4	4.8%
1993	0	0.0%	0.0%	1	11.1%	1.4%	8	88.9%	10.8%	9	12.2%
1994	0	0.0%	0.0%	4	66.7%	7.7%	2	33.3%	3.8%	6	11.5%
1995	0	0.0%	0.0%	3	27.3%	4.5%	8	72.7%	11.9%	11	16.4%
1981-1985		1.5%	0.2%		24.2%	3.4%		74.2%	10.3%		13.9%
1986-1990		4.5%	0.4%		31.8%	3.1%		63.6%	6.3%		9.8%
1991-1995		0.0%	0.0%		28.9%	3.5%		71.1%	8.7%		12.3%

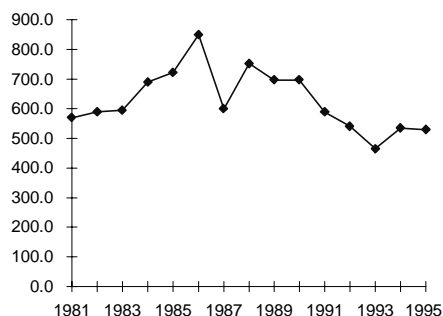
Source: Table 30 Montana Vital Statistics (1981-1995)

Abortion Ratios for Montana Teens

Table 11 - Montana Resident Teen Age Specific Abortion Ratios;1981-1995

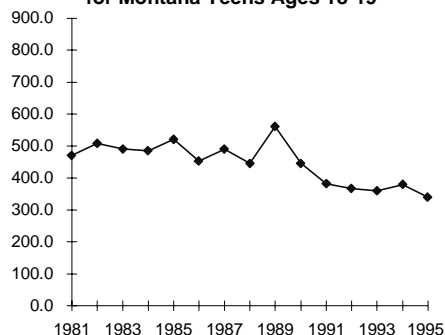
AGE: 15-17 YEARS			
YEAR	ABORTIONS	LIVE BIRTHS	RATIO OF ABORTIONS TO 1,000 BIRTHS
1981	302	530	569.8
1982	290	492	589.4
1983	274	460	595.7
1984	293	425	689.4
1985	304	421	722.1
1986	335	394	850.3
1987	241	402	599.5
1988	301	400	752.5
1989	281	403	697.3
1990	280	402	696.5
1991	238	405	587.7
1992	251	464	540.9
1993	232	499	464.9
1994	234	438	534.2
1995	248	469	528.8
1981-1985			628.4
1986-1990			718.6
1991-1995			528.8

Ratio of Abortions to 1,000 Births
for Montana Teens Ages 15-17



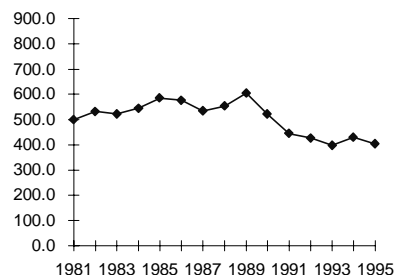
AGE: 18-19 YEARS			
YEAR	ABORTIONS	LIVE BIRTHS	RATIO OF ABORTIONS TO 1,000 BIRTHS
1981	567	1206	470.1
1982	585	1151	508.3
1983	535	1090	490.8
1984	495	1022	484.3
1985	470	902	521.1
1986	397	877	452.7
1987	403	823	489.7
1988	334	749	445.9
1989	466	830	561.4
1990	415	932	445.3
1991	349	916	381.0
1992	326	889	366.7
1993	324	899	360.4
1994	334	881	379.1
1995	316	929	340.2
1981-1985			493.8
1986-1990			478.5
1991-1995			365.3

Ratio of Abortions to 1,000 Births
for Montana Teens Ages 18-19



AGE: 15-19 YEARS			
YEAR	ABORTIONS	LIVE BIRTHS	RATIO OF ABORTIONS TO 1,000 BIRTHS
1981	869	1,736	500.6
1982	875	1,643	532.6
1983	809	1,550	521.9
1984	788	1,447	544.6
1985	774	1,323	585.0
1986	732	1,271	575.9
1987	654	1,225	533.9
1988	635	1,149	552.7
1989	747	1,233	605.8
1990	695	1,334	521.0
1991	587	1,321	444.4
1992	577	1,353	426.5
1993	556	1,398	397.7
1994	568	1,319	430.6
1995	564	1,398	403.4
1981-1985			534.5
1986-1990			557.5
1991-1995			420.1

Ratio of Abortions to 1,000 Births
for Montana Teens Ages 15-19



CHARACTERISTICS OF PREGNANT MONTANA TEENS

Prior Pregnancies to Teens

During 1991-1995, approximately one out of four Montana teens who had a live birth or an abortion indicated that she had had a prior pregnancy.

Teens aged 18-19 are more likely to have had prior pregnancies than are teens aged 15-17. Over the past five years, approximately 35 percent of the women who gave birth at age 18-19 indicated that they had a prior pregnancy; 25 percent of the women aged 18-19 who received an abortion indicated that they had a prior pregnancy.

Table 13 (page 24) details the number of prior pregnancies among the Montana resident teens who had a live birth or an abortion during the years 1989-1995. Of those teens indicating that they had a prior pregnancy during 1991-1995, approximately 23 percent indicated that they had more than one prior pregnancy.

Table 12 - Percentage of Teens who Gave Birth or Had Abortion that had Experienced More than One Prior Pregnancy

	Live Births w/ More than One Prior Preg	Abortions w/ More than One Prior Preg	Total w/ More than One Prior Preg	Total Number w/ Prior Preg	Percent w/ More than One Prior Preg
1991	100	29	129	467	28%
1992	99	32	131	532	25%
1993	75	29	104	503	21%
1994	69	28	97	502	19%
1995	68	25	93	423	22%
TOTAL	411	143	554	2427	23%

Race of Pregnant Teens

During 1981-1995, approximately one out of five Montana Native American births was to a teen, while approximately one out of ten White births was to a teen.

In the last 15 years Native Americans comprised 6-7 percent of the Montana population; yet they accounted for 9-11 percent of the total births. In 1981, Native Americans represented a little over 20 percent of the births to teens in Montana; in 1995, they represented approximately 22 percent.

One out of five births to Montana teens was to a Native American mother during 1991-1995.

On average Montana Native American teens gave birth at younger ages than White teens during 1981-1995.

Among Whites 9 to 10 percent of the births occur to women less than 20 years old; among Native Americans 22 to 25 percent of the births are to women less than 20 years old.

In the fifteen year period, 36 to 39 percent of the Native American teen births occurred to females aged 17 years and under; the corresponding proportion for Whites was between 28 to 31 percent.

Since the abortion records, unlike the birth records, have a high proportion of “unknown” reported for race/ethnicity, we have chosen not to compare the occurrences of abortions between Whites and Native Americans.

Births to Montana teens by race during 1981-1995 are detailed in Table 14 (page 25). Figure 9 shows the proportion of Montana live births by age group and race for the five year periods examined here. Figure 10 and Figure 11 show the proportion of births by race to teens and adult women. Table 15 (page 26) details the number and percent distribution of births to White and Native American teens by age group in Montana for each year from 1981 through 1995.

Figure 9 - Proportion of Montana Live Births by Age and Ethnicity

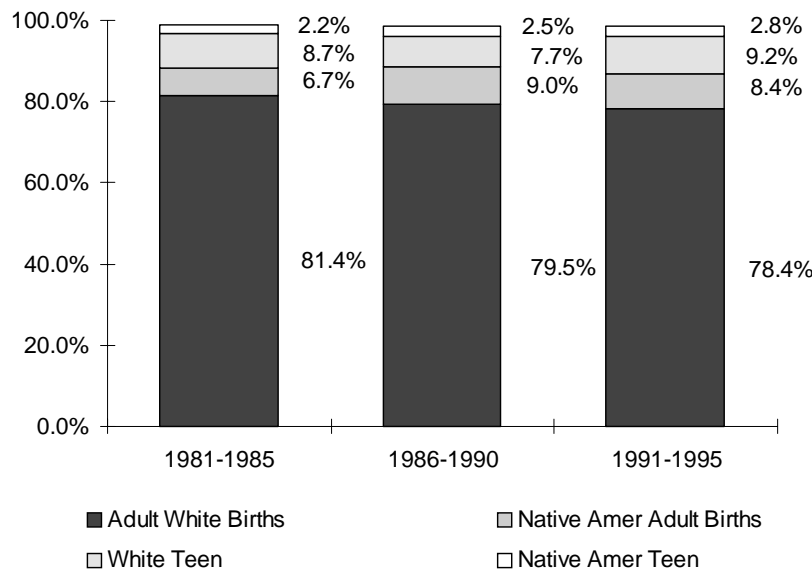


Figure 10 - Proportion of Montana Native American Births to Native American Teens and Adults

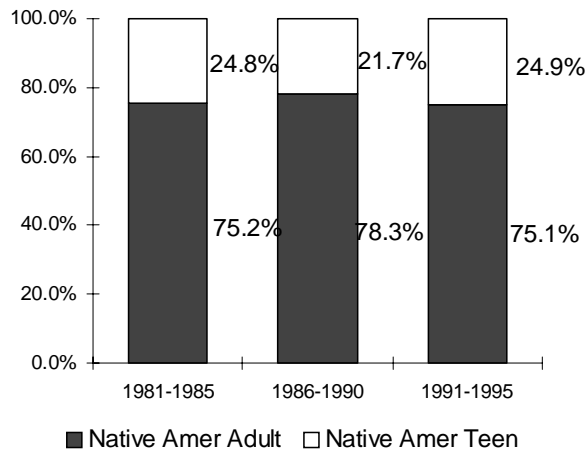
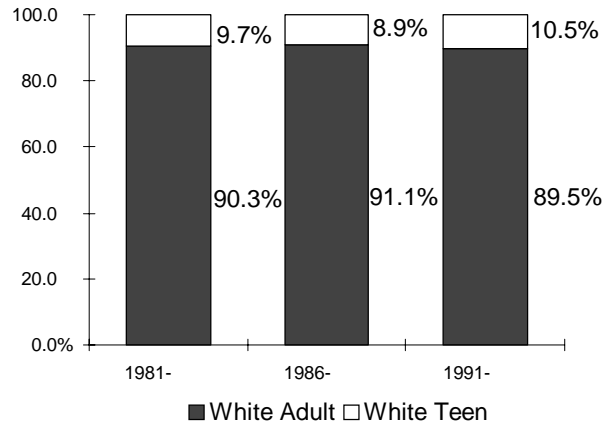


Figure 11 - Proportion of Montana White Births to White Teens and Adults



Marital Status of Pregnant Teens

Births to unmarried teens comprised approximately one out of three of Montana's nonmarital births during 1981-1995.

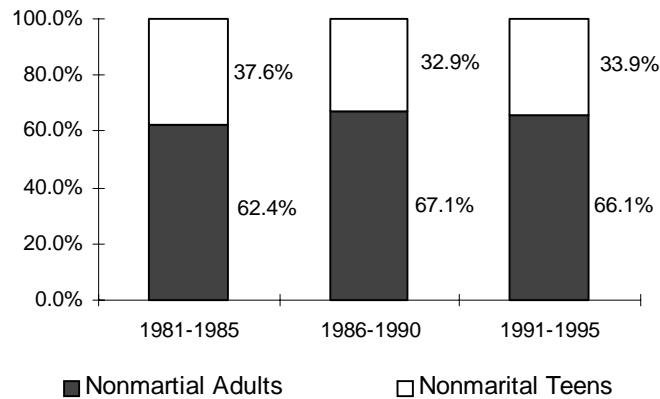
The number of nonmarital births is rising in Montana for women of all age groups. Nonmarital births are births to women who have not been married at any time during their pregnancy. The number of nonmarital teen births by age

group for the years 1981-1995 are listed in Table 16 (page 27).

Most nonmarital births are to women who are 20 years old or older as illustrated by Figure 12. Teens represent a minority of nonmarital Montana births, and the proportion has been shrinking -- dropping from about 42 percent of the total nonmarital births in Montana in 1981 to about 36 percent in 1995.

Montana's statistics follow the national pattern of increasing numbers of teen births outside of marriage. Nonmarital births to teens in Montana rose from about 46 percent of total teen births in 1981 to close to 69 percent in 1991. In the United States, the percentage of nonmarital births to teens rose from 48 percent in 1980 to 68 percent in 1990.

Figure 12 - Five-Year Percentage Distribution of Montana Births to Nonmarital Women by Age Group

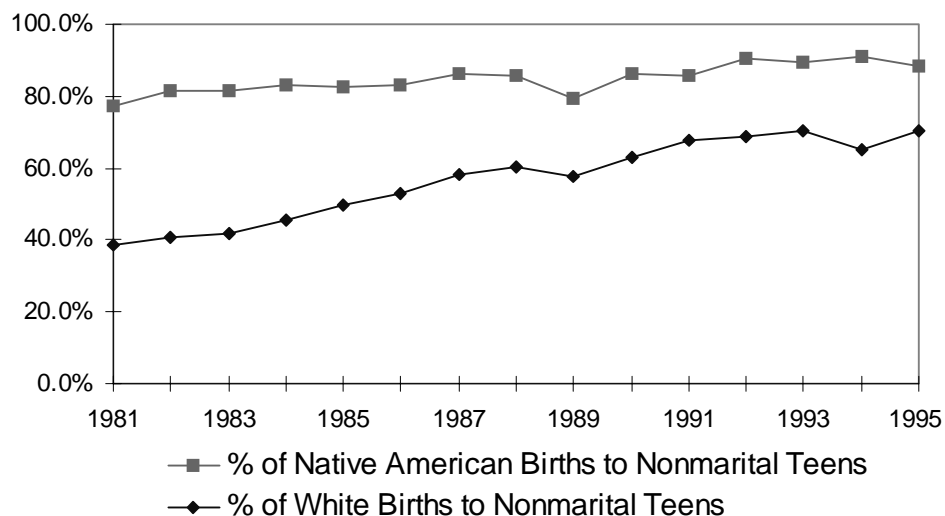


The percentage of Montana births to White teens who were not married at any time during their pregnancy increased from 39 percent in 1981 to 70 percent in 1995.

In 1981, 77 percent of Montana Native American teen births were nonmarital. By 1995, 88 percent were nonmarital. The percent of Montana White teen births which were nonmarital increased more substantially, from a low of 39 percent in 1981 to a high of 70 percent in 1995.

Figure 13 shows the trends for White and Native American nonmarital teens. Table 17 (page 28) lists the number of nonmarital births to White and Native American teens for the fifteen year period from 1981-1995.

Figure 13 - Births to Montana Nonmarital Teens as a Proportion of all Births to Teens: White and Native American; 1981-1995



Prior Pregnancies to Montana Teens

Table 13 - Prior Pregnancies to Montana Resident Teens who Gave Births or had Abortion
Distribution by Age;1981-1995

Montana Teen Residents who had an Abortion								
Year	< 15 yrs Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Aborts	15-17 yrs Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Aborts	18-19 yrs Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Aborts	All Teens Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Aborts
1981	0	0.0%	17	5.6%	81	14.3%	98	11.1%
1982	0	0.0%	21	7.2%	85	14.5%	106	11.9%
1983	0	0.0%	13	4.7%	75	14.0%	88	10.6%
1984	0	0.0%	14	4.8%	63	12.7%	77	9.6%
1985	0	0.0%	21	6.9%	66	14.0%	87	10.9%
1986	0	0.0%	19	5.7%	56	14.1%	75	10.1%
1987	0	0.0%	16	6.6%	64	15.9%	80	12.1%
1988	0	0.0%	21	7.0%	56	16.8%	77	11.9%
1989	0	0.0%	22	7.8%	79	17.0%	101	13.2%
1990	0	0.0%	15	5.4%	65	15.7%	80	11.3%
1991	0	0.0%	19	8.0%	63	18.1%	82	13.7%
1992	1	4.2%	19	7.6%	111	34.0%	131	21.8%
1993	1	7.1%	24	10.3%	96	29.6%	121	21.2%
1994	1	4.8%	34	14.5%	105	31.4%	140	23.8%
1995	0	0.0%	17	6.9%	54	17.1%	71	12.3%
1981-1985		0.0%		5.9%		14.0%		10.8%
1986-1990		0.0%		6.5%		15.9%		11.7%
1991-1995		3.7%		9.0%		25.2%		18.1%

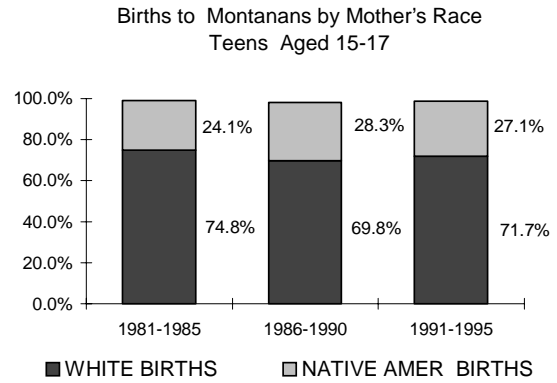
Montana Teen Residents who Gave Birth								
Year	< 15 yrs Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Births	15-17 yrs Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Births	18-19 yrs Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Births	All Teens Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Births
1981	0	0.0%	73	13.8%	386	32.0%	459	26.2%
1982	0	0.0%	74	15.0%	355	30.8%	429	25.9%
1983	0	0.0%	45	9.8%	357	32.8%	402	25.8%
1984	1	7.1%	51	12.0%	333	32.6%	385	26.4%
1985	0	0.0%	56	13.3%	294	32.6%	350	26.2%
1986	0	0.0%	57	14.5%	290	33.1%	347	27.2%
1987	1	9.1%	56	13.9%	290	35.2%	347	28.1%
1988	0	0.0%	77	19.3%	269	35.9%	346	29.9%
1989	0	0.0%	58	14.4%	285	34.3%	343	27.4%
1990	1	10.0%	61	15.2%	330	35.4%	392	29.2%
1991	0	0.0%	57	14.1%	328	35.9%	385	29.0%
1992	0	0.0%	77	16.6%	324	36.4%	401	29.3%
1993	0	0.0%	80	16.0%	302	33.6%	382	27.0%
1994	0	0.0%	61	13.9%	301	34.2%	362	27.1%
1995	0	0.0%	55	11.7%	297	32.0%	352	25.0%
1981-1985		1.6%		12.8%		32.1%		26.1%
1986-1990		3.6%		15.4%		34.8%		28.3%
1991-1995		1.4%		15.2%		35.1%		28.3%

Montana Teen Residents who Gave Birth or had an Abortion								
Year	< 15 yrs Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Births & Aborts	15-17 yrs Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Births & Aborts	18-19 yrs Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Births & Aborts	All Teens Number w/Prior Pregnancies	% of Births & Aborts
1981	0	0.0%	90	10.8%	467	26.3%	557	21.2%
1982	0	0.0%	95	12.1%	440	25.3%	535	21.0%
1983	0	0.0%	58	7.9%	432	26.6%	490	20.5%
1984	1	3.1%	65	9.1%	396	26.1%	462	20.4%
1985	0	0.0%	77	10.6%	360	26.2%	437	20.5%
1986	0	0.0%	76	10.4%	346	27.2%	422	20.8%
1987	1	3.8%	72	11.2%	354	28.9%	427	22.5%
1988	0	0.0%	98	14.0%	325	30.0%	423	23.4%
1989	0	0.0%	80	11.7%	364	28.1%	444	22.0%
1990	1	5.0%	76	11.1%	395	29.3%	472	23.0%
1991	0	0.0%	76	11.9%	391	31.0%	467	24.2%
1992	1	2.6%	96	13.4%	435	35.8%	532	27.0%
1993	1	3.4%	104	14.2%	398	32.5%	503	25.4%
1994	1	2.6%	95	14.1%	406	33.4%	502	26.1%
1995	0	0.0%	72	10.0%	351	28.2%	423	21.3%
1981-1985		0.6%		10.2%		26.1%		20.7%
1986-1990		1.6%		11.7%		28.7%		22.3%
1991-1995		2.6%		13.0%		32.3%		25.1%

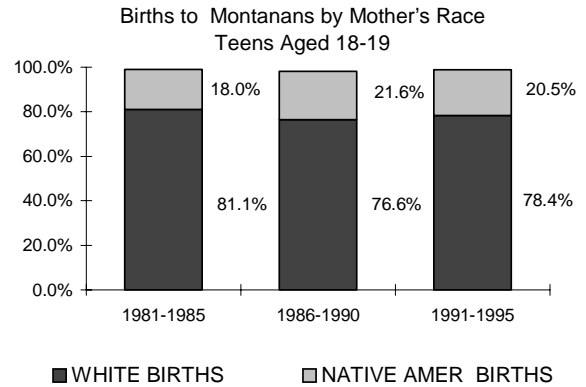
Race of Montana Teen Mothers

Table 14 - Montana Resident Teen Live Births:
Distribution of White and Native American Teen Births; 1981-1995

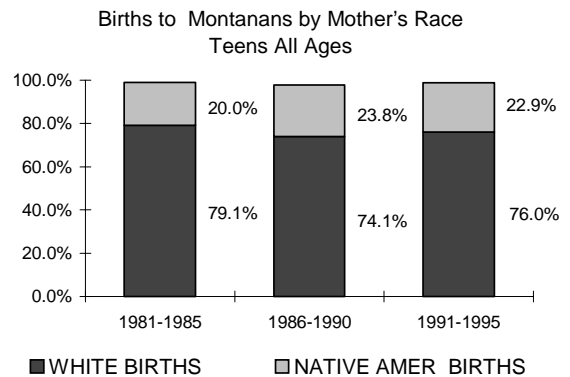
AGE: 15-17 YEARS					
YEAR	TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS	WHITE BIRTHS	% OF TOT BIRTHS	NATIVE AMER BIRTHS	% OF TOT BIRTHS
1981	530	396	74.7%	129	24.3%
1982	492	360	73.2%	123	25.0%
1983	460	351	76.3%	106	23.0%
1984	425	319	75.1%	101	23.8%
1985	421	316	75.1%	101	24.0%
1986	394	290	73.6%	102	25.9%
1987	402	279	69.4%	121	30.1%
1988	400	272	68.0%	123	30.8%
1989	403	260	64.5%	115	28.5%
1990	402	295	73.4%	106	26.4%
1991	405	291	71.9%	111	27.4%
1992	464	333	71.8%	129	27.8%
1993	499	346	69.3%	145	29.1%
1994	438	325	74.2%	109	24.9%
1995	469	337	71.9%	123	26.2%
1981-1985			74.8%		24.1%
1986-1990			69.8%		28.3%
1991-1995			71.7%		27.1%



AGE: 18-19 YEARS					
YEAR	TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS	WHITE BIRTHS	% OF TOT BIRTHS	NATIVE AMER BIRTHS	% OF TOT BIRTHS
1981	1,206	983	81.5%	213	17.7%
1982	1,151	960	83.4%	184	16.0%
1983	1,090	891	81.7%	187	17.2%
1984	1,022	820	80.2%	195	19.1%
1985	902	702	77.8%	188	20.8%
1986	877	708	80.7%	163	18.6%
1987	823	639	77.6%	179	21.7%
1988	749	573	76.5%	162	21.6%
1989	830	608	73.3%	182	21.9%
1990	932	696	74.7%	222	23.8%
1991	916	717	78.3%	189	20.6%
1992	889	685	77.1%	193	21.7%
1993	899	714	79.4%	178	19.8%
1994	881	690	78.3%	183	20.8%
1995	929	735	79.1%	182	19.6%
1981-1985			81.1%		18.0%
1986-1990			76.6%		21.6%
1991-1995			78.4%		20.5%



ALL TEEN BIRTHS					
YEAR	TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS	WHITE BIRTHS	% OF TOT BIRTHS	NATIVE AMER BIRTHS	% OF TOT BIRTHS
1981	1,750	1,391	79.5%	344	19.7%
1982	1,656	1,326	80.1%	313	18.9%
1983	1,561	1,249	80.0%	297	19.0%
1984	1,461	1,146	78.4%	303	20.7%
1985	1,334	1,026	76.9%	292	21.9%
1986	1,278	1,002	78.4%	268	21.0%
1987	1,236	923	74.7%	306	24.8%
1988	1,156	850	73.5%	287	24.8%
1989	1,255	875	69.7%	298	23.7%
1990	1,344	993	73.9%	336	25.0%
1991	1,334	1,017	76.2%	304	22.8%
1992	1,368	1,027	75.1%	328	24.0%
1993	1,413	1,070	75.7%	328	23.2%
1994	1,337	1,026	76.7%	299	22.4%
1995	1,410	1,077	76.4%	311	22.1%
1981-1985			79.1%		20.0%
1986-1990			74.1%		23.8%
1991-1995			76.0%		22.9%



Race of Montana Teen Mothers

*Table 15 - Montana Resident Teen Births:
Distribution of Occurrences by Age and Race of Mother; 1981-1995*

	WHITE TEEN BIRTHS										
YEAR	Less than 15 Yrs	% of Teen Births	15-17 Yrs	% of Teen Births	18-19 Yrs	% of Teen Births	TOTAL WHITE TEEN BIRTHS	MT TOTAL WHITE BIRTHS	WHITE TEEN BRTHS (% WH TOT)	WHITE TEEN BRTHS (% MT TOT)	MT TOTAL BIRTHS
1981	12	0.9%	396	28.5%	983	70.7%	1,391	12,951	10.7%	9.7%	14,309
1982	6	0.5%	360	27.1%	960	72.4%	1,326	13,121	10.1%	9.1%	14,538
1983	7	0.6%	351	28.1%	891	71.3%	1,249	12,720	9.8%	8.9%	14,054
1984	7	0.6%	319	27.8%	820	71.6%	1,146	12,688	9.0%	8.1%	14,141
1985	8	0.8%	316	30.8%	702	68.4%	1,026	12,087	8.5%	7.6%	13,497
1986	4	0.4%	290	28.9%	708	70.7%	1,002	11,381	8.8%	7.9%	12,728
1987	5	0.5%	279	30.2%	639	69.2%	923	10,733	8.6%	7.5%	12,239
1988	5	0.6%	272	32.0%	573	67.4%	850	9,987	8.5%	7.3%	11,682
1989	7	0.8%	260	29.7%	608	69.5%	875	10,153	8.6%	7.5%	11,667
1990	2	0.2%	295	29.7%	696	70.1%	993	10,005	9.9%	8.6%	11,602
1991	9	0.9%	291	28.6%	717	70.5%	1,017	10,007	10.2%	8.8%	11,496
1992	9	0.9%	333	32.4%	685	66.7%	1,027	9,967	10.3%	9.0%	11,468
1993	10	0.9%	346	32.3%	714	66.7%	1,070	9,970	10.7%	9.4%	11,362
1994	11	1.1%	325	31.7%	690	67.3%	1,026	9,719	10.6%	9.3%	11,062
1995	5	0.5%	337	31.3%	735	68.2%	1,077	9,843	10.9%	9.7%	11,136
1981-1985		0.7%		28.4%		71.0%			9.7%	8.7%	
1986-1990		0.5%		30.1%		69.4%			8.9%	7.7%	
1991-1995		0.8%		31.3%		67.9%			10.5%	9.2%	

	NATIVE AMERICAN TEEN BIRTHS										
YEAR	Less than	% of Teen	15-17 Yrs	% of Teen	18-19 Yrs	% of Teen	TOTAL	MT TOTAL	NATIVE AMER	NATIVE AMER	
	15 Yrs	Births		Births		Births	NATIVE AMER	NATIVE AMER	TEEN BRTHS	TEEN BRTHS	MT TOTAL
							TEEN BIRTHS	BIRTHS	(% NA TOT)	(% MT TOT)	BIRTHS
1981	2	0.6%	129	37.5%	213	61.9%	344	1,187	29.0%	2.4%	14,309
1982	6	1.9%	123	39.3%	184	58.8%	313	1,255	24.9%	2.2%	14,538
1983	4	1.3%	106	35.7%	187	63.0%	297	1,206	24.6%	2.1%	14,054
1984	7	2.3%	101	33.3%	195	64.4%	303	1,327	22.8%	2.1%	14,141
1985	3	1.0%	101	34.6%	188	64.4%	292	1,282	22.8%	2.2%	13,497
1986	3	1.1%	102	38.1%	163	60.8%	268	1,236	21.7%	2.1%	12,728
1987	6	2.0%	121	39.5%	179	58.5%	306	1,398	21.9%	2.5%	12,239
1988	2	0.7%	123	42.9%	162	56.4%	287	1,407	20.4%	2.5%	11,682
1989	1	0.3%	115	38.6%	182	61.1%	298	1,391	21.4%	2.6%	11,667
1990	8	2.4%	106	31.5%	222	66.1%	336	1,445	23.3%	2.9%	11,602
1991	4	1.3%	111	36.5%	189	62.2%	304	1,363	22.3%	2.6%	11,496
1992	6	1.8%	129	39.3%	193	58.8%	328	1,355	24.2%	2.9%	11,468
1993	5	1.5%	145	44.2%	178	54.3%	328	1,247	26.3%	2.9%	11,362
1994	7	2.3%	109	36.5%	183	61.2%	299	1,201	24.9%	2.7%	11,062
1995	6	1.9%	123	39.5%	182	58.5%	311	1,140	27.3%	2.8%	11,136
1981-1985		1.4%		36.2%		62.4%			24.8%	2.2%	
1986-1990		1.3%		37.9%		60.7%			21.7%	2.5%	
1991-1995		1.8%		39.3%		58.9%			24.9%	2.8%	

Births to Montana Nonmarital Women

Table 16 - Montana Resident Births to Nonmarital Women : Distribution by Age;1981-1995

Nonmarital Teens		15-17 YRS		18-19 YRS		All Teens		Nonmarital Adults	
YEAR	All Nonmarital Births	# Births	% of MT Total	# Births	% of MT Total	# Births	% of MT Total	# Births	% of MT Total
1981	1,902	343	18.0%	453	23.8%	809	42.5%	1,093	57.5%
1982	2,080	339	16.3%	451	21.7%	802	38.6%	1,278	61.4%
1983	2,027	306	15.1%	454	22.4%	771	38.0%	1,256	62.0%
1984	2,139	292	13.7%	469	21.9%	775	36.2%	1,364	63.8%
1985	2,268	318	14.0%	432	19.0%	760	33.5%	1,508	66.5%
1986	2,260	312	13.8%	433	19.2%	752	33.3%	1,508	66.7%
1987	2,378	325	13.7%	464	19.5%	800	33.6%	1,578	66.4%
1988	2,424	325	13.4%	440	18.2%	772	31.8%	1,652	68.2%
1989	2,536	323	12.7%	470	18.5%	811	32.0%	1,725	68.0%
1990	2,750	331	12.0%	584	21.2%	925	33.6%	1,825	66.4%
1991	2,893	351	12.1%	595	20.6%	958	33.1%	1,935	66.9%
1992	3,031	409	13.5%	585	19.3%	1,009	33.3%	2,022	66.7%
1993	3,103	445	14.3%	595	19.2%	1,055	34.0%	2,048	66.0%
1994	2,815	376	13.4%	556	19.8%	950	33.7%	1,865	66.3%
1995	2,945	413	14.0%	622	21.1%	1,047	35.6%	1,898	64.4%
1981-1985			15.3%		21.7%		37.6%		62.4%
1986-1990			13.1%		19.4%		32.9%		67.1%
1991-1995			13.5%		20.0%		33.9%		66.1%

White and Native American Nonmarital Teen Births

Table 17 - Montana Resident Nonmarital Teen Births:
Distribution of White and Native American Nonmarital Births; 1981-1995

Montana Teens (15-17 years old)									
YEAR	All Births	Nonmarital Births	% Births	# Nonmarital White Brth	% Births	% White Births	# Nonmarital Nat Amer Brth	% Births	% NatAmer Births
1981	530	343	64.7%	232	43.8%	58.6%	110	20.8%	85.3%
1982	492	339	68.9%	226	45.9%	62.8%	109	22.2%	88.6%
1983	460	306	66.5%	214	46.5%	61.0%	91	19.8%	85.8%
1984	425	292	68.7%	205	48.2%	64.3%	87	20.5%	86.1%
1985	421	318	75.5%	223	53.0%	70.6%	92	21.9%	91.1%
1986	394	312	79.2%	218	55.3%	75.2%	94	23.9%	92.2%
1987	402	325	80.8%	215	53.5%	77.1%	110	27.4%	90.9%
1988	400	324	81.0%	210	52.5%	76.6%	112	28.0%	90.3%
1989	403	310	76.9%	205	50.9%	73.0%	104	25.8%	87.4%
1990	402	331	82.3%	231	57.5%	78.3%	99	24.6%	93.4%
1991	405	349	86.2%	248	61.2%	85.2%	101	24.9%	91.0%
1992	464	409	88.1%	285	61.4%	85.6%	122	26.3%	94.6%
1993	499	445	89.2%	304	60.9%	87.9%	134	26.9%	92.4%
1994	438	376	85.8%	268	61.2%	82.5%	104	23.7%	95.4%
1995	469	413	88.1%	288	61.4%	85.5%	117	24.9%	95.1%
1981-1985			68.6%		47.3%	63.1%		21.0%	87.3%
1986-1990			80.1%		53.9%	76.0%		25.9%	90.7%
1991-1995			87.6%		61.2%	85.4%		25.4%	93.7%

Montana Teens (18-19 years old)									
YEAR	All Births	Nonmarital Births	% Births	# Nonmarital White Brth	% Births	% White Births	# Nonmarital Nat Amer Brth	% Births	% NatAmer Births
1981	1,206	453	37.6%	296	24.5%	30.1%	154	12.8%	72.3%
1982	1,151	451	39.2%	309	26.8%	32.2%	140	12.2%	76.1%
1983	1,090	454	41.7%	301	27.6%	33.8%	147	13.5%	78.6%
1984	1,022	469	45.9%	308	30.1%	37.6%	158	15.5%	81.0%
1985	902	432	47.9%	282	31.3%	40.2%	146	16.2%	77.7%
1986	877	433	49.4%	306	34.9%	43.2%	125	14.3%	76.7%
1987	823	464	56.4%	315	38.3%	49.3%	148	18.0%	82.7%
1988	749	438	58.5%	302	40.3%	52.0%	134	17.9%	82.2%
1989	830	469	56.5%	322	38.8%	50.8%	145	17.5%	76.7%
1990	932	584	62.7%	392	42.1%	56.2%	184	19.7%	82.5%
1991	916	594	64.8%	434	47.4%	60.4%	155	16.9%	82.0%
1992	889	585	65.8%	413	46.5%	60.3%	168	18.9%	87.0%
1993	899	595	66.2%	437	48.6%	61.2%	154	17.1%	86.5%
1994	881	556	63.1%	391	44.4%	56.7%	161	18.3%	88.0%
1995	929	622	67.0%	463	49.8%	67.1%	153	16.5%	83.6%
1981-1985			42.1%		27.9%	34.3%		13.9%	77.0%
1986-1990			56.7%		38.9%	50.2%		17.5%	80.3%
1991-1995			65.4%		47.4%	61.1%		17.5%	85.4%

Montana Teens (Under 20 years old)									
YEAR	All Births	Nonmarital Births	% Births	# Nonmarital White Brth	% Births	% White Births	# Nonmarital Nat Amer Brth	% Births	% NatAmer Births
1981	1,750	809	46.2%	539	30.8%	38.7%	266	15.2%	77.3%
1982	1,656	802	48.4%	541	32.7%	40.8%	255	15.4%	81.5%
1983	1,561	771	49.4%	522	33.4%	41.8%	242	15.5%	81.5%
1984	1,461	775	53.0%	520	35.6%	45.4%	252	17.2%	83.2%
1985	1,334	760	57.0%	512	38.4%	49.9%	241	18.1%	82.5%
1986	1,278	752	58.8%	528	41.3%	52.7%	222	17.4%	82.8%
1987	1,236	800	64.7%	535	43.3%	58.0%	264	21.4%	86.3%
1988	1,156	769	66.5%	517	44.7%	60.1%	248	21.5%	85.8%
1989	1,255	787	62.7%	534	42.5%	57.4%	250	19.9%	79.6%
1990	1,344	925	68.8%	625	46.5%	62.9%	291	21.7%	86.4%
1991	1,334	956	71.7%	691	51.8%	67.9%	260	19.5%	85.5%
1992	1368	1,009	73.8%	707	51.7%	68.8%	296	21.6%	90.2%
1993	1413	1,055	74.7%	751	53.1%	70.2%	293	20.7%	89.3%
1994	1337	950	71.1%	670	50.1%	65.3%	272	20.3%	91.0%
1995	1410	1,047	74.3%	756	53.6%	70.2%	275	19.5%	88.4%
1981-1985			50.5%		33.9%	42.9%		16.2%	81.1%
1986-1990			64.3%		43.7%	58.2%		20.3%	84.2%
1991-1995			73.1%		52.1%	68.5%		20.3%	88.9%

*Total births are all births, both married and non-marital, and all races and ethnic groups within the specified age grouping of teen females.

REGIONAL COMPARISON OF TEEN PREGNANCY RATES

Montana teen birth rate over the past fifteen years has been one of the lowest in among neighboring states. Table 16 summarizes birth rates in surrounding states for selected years.

Table 18 - Selected State and U.S. Birth Rates per 1000 Women Aged 15-19; for 1980, 1985, 1990 and 1994

Of surrounding states, only North Dakota had a lower teen birth rate than Montana in 1994.

	1980	1985	1990	1994
Colorado	50	48	55	54
Idaho	60	47	51	47
Montana	49	44	48	41
North Dakota	42	36	35	35
South Dakota	53	46	47	43
Utah	65	50	48	43
Wyoming	79	59	56	48
United States	53	51	60	59

Child Trends, Inc.: Facts at a Glance, October 1996

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Montana's teen births represented 25 percent of all first births in Montana during 1994. Montana's percentage of first births to teens is equal to the national percentage and higher than North Dakota, Colorado, and Utah

Table 17 compares Montana's percentage of first births to teens, to surrounding states and the United States.

Table 17 - Selected State and U.S. Percentage of First Births to Teen Mothers: 1994

	Of all First Births in State, % to Teen Mothers
Colorado	23%
Idaho	29%
Montana	25%
North Dakota	19%
South Dakota	25%
Utah	24%
Wyoming	30%
United States	25%

Table 18 - Selected State and U.S. Percentage of Teens Births that were Second or Later Births; 1994

	% of Teen Births that are 2nd or Later Births
Colorado	19%
Idaho	18%
Montana	16%
North Dakota	15%
South Dakota	17%
Utah	16%
Wyoming	17%
United States	22%

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics: Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 45, No. 3, Supplement 2, Oct 4, 1996.

Each year some births to teens are second or later births. In 1994, Montana and Utah had the lowest percentage (16 percent) of second or later births to teens as detailed in Table 18.

Abortions rates for Colorado, Montana and Wyoming are higher than abortion rates in other surrounding states as detailed in Table 19.

Table 19 - Selected State and U.S. Abortion Rates Per 1000 Women Aged 15-19; 1980,1985,1988

	1980	1985	1988
Colorado	49	51	43
Idaho	23	21	17
Montana	32	28	24
North Dakota	22	17+	18+
South Dakota	21	18	15
Utah	15+	15+	15+
Wyoming	29	30	23
United States	43	44	43

+ A law requiring parental involvement for minors in effect. Due to this law, abortions may be under-reported because minors have obtained abortions in other states.

Teen birth rates have fallen since 1970 in selected European countries and remains much lower than U.S. rates as shown in Table 20.

Table 20 - Births Per 1,000 Females Aged 15-19 in Selected European Countries and the United States; 1980,1985,1989

	1980	1985	1989
Denmark	17	9	9
France	18	12	9
Germany	15	9	11
Netherlands	7	5	6
United Kingdom	31	30	32
United States	53	51	58
Montana	48	44	45

Source: *Facts at a Glance*, Washington, D.C.: Child Trends, Inc., March 1993.

MONTANA TEEN PREGNANCY RATES BY COUNTY

County Teen Pregnancy Rates

The following tables describe the occurrences of pregnancies and pregnancy outcomes (live births, induced abortions, and fetal deaths) to teens aged 15-19 years in Montana by county of residence. Also given are the ratio of non-marital births to live births for this age group and the number of occurrences of live births to females less than 15 years old.

The tables give five-year "rolling" rates as described in the "introduction" to the report. Where there were fewer than 20 occurrences in the last five years or fewer than 100 teens in the county, no rates were determined as the number would not be reliable. This also applies to all the occurrences of fetal death; the numbers are too few to render reliable rates over five-year periods.

This section begins with tables and figures that rank the 56 Montana counties in descending order for based upon the 1995 five-year pregnancy rates, fertility rates, abortion rates, and the non-marital birth ratio to live births. All rates are for resident Montana teens aged 15-19 years. Rates were based on population estimates for this age group.

Table 21 - Montana Teen Pregnancy Rates for Females Aged 15-19;1981-1995

MONTANA TEEN PREGNANCY OUTCOMES - 1981 TO 1991 Ages 15-19 Years											
YEAR	Pop Est 15-19 F	Pregs	5-Year PG Rate	Births	5-Year Fert Rate	Abortions	5-Year Abort Rate	Births (Under 15)	Non- Marital Births	5-Year Ratio to Births	Fetal Deaths
1981	34,830	2,619		1,736		869		14	796		14
1982	33,850	2,532		1,643		875		13	790		14
1983	32,890	2,369		1,550		809		11	760		10
1984	32,090	2,246		1,447		788		14	761		11
1985	31,540	2,113	71.9	1,323	46.6	774	24.9	11	750	50.1	16
1986	31,040	2,012	69.8	1,271	44.8	732	24.6	7	745	52.6	9
1987	30,170	1,884	67.4	1,225	43.2	654	23.8	11	789	55.8	5
1988	29,250	1,797	65.2	1,149	41.6	635	23.3	7	765	59.4	13
1989	28,240	1,989	65.2	1,233	41.3	747	23.6	22	793	62.0	9
1990	26,520	2,035	66.9	1,334	42.8	695	23.8	10	915	64.5	6
1991	26,870	1,923	68.3	1,321	44.4	587	23.5	13	946	67.2	15
1992	29,350	1,934	69.0	1,353	45.6	577	23.1	15	994	69.1	4
1993	30,650	1,963	69.5	1,398	46.9	556	22.3	15	1040	70.6	9
1994	32,030	1,893	67.0	1,319	46.2	568	20.5	18	932	71.8	6
1995	32,240	1,973	64.1	1,398	44.9	564	18.9	12	1035	72.9	11

Table 22 - Montana Five-Year Pregnancy Rate for Females Age 15-19
County in Rank Order; 1991-1995

by

		Pregnancy Rate	% Diff MT Rate	Counties with Too Few Occurences to Rank
	MONTANA	64.1		
1*	ROOSEVELT	130.7	103.9%	CARTER
2*	GLACIER	126.6	97.6%	DANIELS
3*	BIG HORN	115.8	80.7%	FALLON
4*	BLAINE	93.1	45.2%	GARFIELD
5***	HILL	83.5	30.3%	GOLDEN VALLEY
6	POWELL	83.3	30.0%	GRANITE
7**	CASCADE	80.3	25.3%	JUDITH BASIN
8**	SILVER BOW	78.4	22.4%	LIBERTY
9	MINERAL	76.7	19.6%	MCCONE
10**	FLATHEAD	76.7	19.6%	MEAGHER
11***	LAKE	71.7	11.9%	PETROLEUM
12*	VALLEY	70.9	10.6%	POWDER RIVER
13*	ROSEBUD	69.3	8.1%	PRAIRIE
14*	SANDERS	68.9	7.5%	TREASURE
15	DEER LODGE	67.6	5.4%	WHEATLAND
16	LINCOLN	66.7	4.0%	WIBAUX
17	CUSTER	65.6	2.4%	
18	LEWIS & CLARK	61.7	-3.7%	
19	YELLOWSTONE	61.7	-3.8%	
20	MUSSELSHELL	60.8	-5.1%	* - Contains Indian Reservation
21	RICHLAND	60.2	-6.1%	
22	BROADWATER	58.3	-9.0%	** - Has 700 or more Females age 15-19
23	PARK	57.6	-10.1%	
24	TOOLE	55.3	-13.7%	
25	MISSOULA	54.9	-14.3%	
26	STILLWATER	53.2	-17.1%	
27	PHILLIPS	52.8	-17.6%	
28	RAVALLI	49.9	-22.1%	
29	CARBON	49.4	-22.9%	
30	DAWSON	48.2	-24.8%	
31	BEAVERHEAD	47.3	-26.1%	
32	JEFFERSON	47.3	-26.1%	
33	FERGUS	46.8	-27.0%	
34	PONDERA	42.2	-34.2%	
35	MADISON	41.4	-35.4%	
36	GALLATIN	38.1	-40.6%	
37	SWEET GRASS	37.3	-41.8%	
38	CHOUTEAU	32.6	-49.2%	
39	TETON	29.5	-54.0%	
40	SHERIDAN	28.6	-55.4%	

Of the 17 Montana counties with a five year (1991-1995) teen pregnancy rate higher than the state average -- nine include at least some portion of an Indian Reservation, and five have more than 700 females aged 15-19.

PUBLIC COST OF TEEN CHILDBEARING

Nationally, the cost to taxpayers for assisting families begun by a teenager soared to \$34.04 billion in 1992 reported by the Center for Population Options. This estimate represents a 17 percent increase, or \$4.76 billion, over 1991 outlays for Aid to Families with Dependent Children (now referred to as Temporary Aid to Needy Families or TANF), Medicaid, and Food Stamps.

In Montana, the public cost for a teen mother and a child on Medicaid, TANF, Food Stamps and Women, Infant & Children Supplemental Nutrition program (WIC) could cost as much as \$12,156 per year.

Medicaid:	\$2,823 (average cost for prenatal care, physician & hospital costs for a vaginal delivery); \$2,133 (average "well baby" cost for first year of life)
TANF:	\$3,132 per year (includes shelter obligation @ \$261 per month)
Food Stamps:	\$2,616 per year (\$218 per month)
WIC:	\$1,452 per year (\$121 per month)

In addition, the Perinatal and Infant Health Section's MIAMI Project, which target high-risk pregnant mothers around the state, saw 565 women under 20 years old in state fiscal year 1996. Teenage mothers represented thirty-six percent (36%) of the total caseload. The average cost of serving one client for this time period was \$270 or \$152,550 for all the teen mothers. (This estimate is only the state portion and does not include what counties contribute to the local MIAMI Projects.)

The cost benefits of family planning services to prevent unintended teen pregnancies are well documented. The short-term benefits savings to federal, state and local governments are estimated to be an average of \$4.40 for each dollar invested in family planning; the long term benefits are estimated to be \$26 for each dollar invested. For every government dollar spent on family planning in Montana, it is estimated an average of \$7.85 is saved the first year as a result of averting short term expenditures on medical services, welfare and nutritional services.

COMMENTARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Background

An estimated 82 percent of teenage pregnancies in the United States are unintended; i.e., they occur sooner than desired or are not wanted at any time. Strategies for pregnancy prevention must be diverse in their approaches, comprehensive in their coverage of all teens and school-aged children, and consistently presented from kindergarten through high school.

Teen pregnancies in Montana deplete our youth of life options and jeopardize the skills, creativity, productivity, and life-force of our future citizenry. Focusing resources on the prevention of pregnancy in our teenage population will serve to lift up all Montana*s children.

Prevention of teen pregnancies is the primary goal. Implementing prevention programs will require the participation of many groups - families and their children, schools; churches; family planning and community health clinics; local, state and federal government; media and others.

Sexual Activity

Sexually active teenagers not only run the risk of pregnancy, they also face greater risks of contracting sexually transmitted diseases and being exposed to HIV. Based upon the 1995 Montana Youth Risk Behavior Survey:

- Thirty-six percent of ninth grade males and 29 percent of ninth grade females reported having sexual intercourse at least once.
- Forty-three percent of the students surveyed indicated having had sexual intercourse by age 16.
- Sixty-two percent report of twelfth grade students report that they have had sexual intercourse at least once.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), using data from the National Survey of Family Growth concluded, while the pregnancy rate for total population of 15-19 year olds increased between 1980 and 1990 -- among sexually experienced adolescents the pregnancy

rate decreased. Contraceptive use may have been one reason for the decrease in pregnancy rates for sexually experienced adolescents.

Consequences of Teenage Pregnancy

Studies clearly show that the health impact of teen having babies is not good -- both for the mother and baby. Teens are more likely to receive late or no prenatal care; babies born to teens are more likely to be below average in birth weight, die within their first year of life and be abused and neglected.

Further, The Institute of Medicine publication, The Best Intentions - Unintended Pregnancy and the Well-Being of Children and Families, (1995) states that:

Adolescents who have children are substantially less likely to complete high school than those who delay childbearing. Because of their fewer years of schooling, larger families, and lower likelihood of being married, teenage mothers acquire less work experience, have lower wages and earnings, and are substantially more likely to live in poverty.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Strategies and Programs

In December 1996, under the leadership of Governor Racicot, the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) established a task force to develop an action plan to prevent teen pregnancy in Montana. The task force generated an action plan to help local communities develop and adopt programs that would make a difference in their teen pregnancy rate. The plan identified the following action areas for performing prevention activities:

- State Action - State level leadership is essential in implementing public policy, increasing networking, providing technical assistance, and sponsoring education and training.
- Local Community Action - Community leadership is crucial to design and implement successful teen pregnancy prevention strategies that meet the needs of each unique locale.
- Health Care Action - Pregnancy prevention strategies, such as family planning, remain exceedingly more cost effective than the options available once a pregnancy occurs.

- Marketing/Message Action - The media has the capacity to shape positive images and present important health messages. Marketing and outreach efforts need to reach female and male adolescents, male adults, parents and other key individuals and businesses in Montana communities.
- Family Action - Reaching parents can be difficult, yet families play a pivotal role in helping young people make healthy decisions.
- School Action - Schools can give young people the facts and the skills they need to become responsible adults.
- Teen Action - For teens who lack a clear sense of hope for the future, it is essential that the community present alternatives to teen pregnancy.

According to the Advocates for Youth, three general program models are proven as effective in preventing adolescent pregnancy. They include programs that:

- Attempt to involve young people in alternatives to early pregnancy and parenting by providing them with work opportunities, academic tutoring and other life enhancing experiences;
- Provide information or influence attitudes about sexual behavior, contraception, pregnancy, childbearing and personal relationships, including the encouragement of abstinence;
- Increase teens' access to contraceptives.

Conclusion

Creative approaches with rigorous evaluation of outcomes are needed for Montana. Commitments are needed to bridge the gaps between divergent viewpoints and to find common ground for action. Debates about which approach is best sometimes consume resources and energies that are needed for focused prevention programs. It is time to move ahead. The lessons learned will be invaluable and the health and well-being of our children are at stake.

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